

# **UPPER SAUCON**

**A BICENTENNIAL TRIBUTE**

**1743-1976**

## FOREWORD

Early in 1975, the Upper Saucon Bicentennial Committee made initial plans to publish a history of the township.

Our nation's 200th birthday seemed to be an auspicious time to record, under one cover, the heritage of Upper Saucon. It would remain a permanent account of those men and women who have contributed over the years to the growth of our community and country.

"Upper Saucon Township — A Bicentennial Tribute" is a product of love that has a message for each of us. It offers the "who, what, when and where" that is important to some people. However, the human side is also shown. Personal accounts have been left virtually unedited in order to project the author's feelings to the reader.

A tremendous amount of photographs, manuscripts, travel and interviews went into this book. And, inevitably, a great deal of editing was needed. Although an effort was made to check out all names and dates before the information was used, there may be errors.

I would like to thank the Township Supervisors and officials for their continued support of this project.

I thank the following authors who contributed so much of their time and effort; Anneliese Adenstedt, Evelyn Borger, Constance Cowen, Elsie Gruver, Kathy Link, Betty Miller, Barbara Petro, Fran Petro, Ruby Reinik, Jane Whitton, Charles Wimmer. We are indebted to Franklin Dewitt, Henry Soltys, Ruby Reinik and Elsie Gruver for collecting and identifying the hundreds of photographs made available to the Book Committee. In addition, the following people contributed their time by attending meetings, taking field trips and/or opening their homes to the Committee:

Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Bauder  
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 Mr. Edward Wimmer  
 Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Wind  
 Mrs. Witman  
 Charles Yoachim  
 Paul Young  
 Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Zapack

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Finally, we all join together in one group to thank Fran Petro for her research, writing, typing, and all-round organization that made this book a reality.

Daniel J. Harrington  
 Chairperson  
 Upper Saucon Bicentennial Committee

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## INDIANS IN UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP

*by Anneliese Adenstedt*

Previous to the year 1755 (the commencement of the "Indian war"), the Indians who resided in the county were kind neighbors to the white people, whom they frequently supplied with meat and sometimes with beans and other vegetables, which they always did as charity, bringing presents to their houses and refusing pay. The Indian children were sociable and fond of play; a harmony was kept up between them until 1755. Native simplicity reigned then in its greatest extent. The difference between the families of the white men and the Indian was not great, when, to live was the utmost hope, and to enjoy a bare sufficiency the greatest luxury. Before this time, no occurrence happened, materially to disturb the general tranquility; everything, both public and private, went on in an even and regular routine, their moderate wishes were fully gratified, necessities and conveniences were gradually increased, but luxuries of any kind, except spirituous liquors, were rarely thought of or introduced.

The first men that lived in Upper Saucon were the Indians. The word Saucon is derived from the Indian word Saukunk which was the name applied to an Indian village at the mouth of Saucon Creek, and afterwards a large tract of country lying on both sides of the creek from its source to its mouth. Saukunk comes from Sa-ku-wit, the mouth of a creek.

The Indians most closely associated with this area and Pennsylvania were the Delawares. They called themselves Lenni Lenape (pronounced Len-ne Le-nah-pay), which means the "Real (or Original) People", and were addressed as "Grandfathers" by most of their Algonquin speaking neighbors. The English called them Delawares because they were seen on the Delaware river. The Lenni Lenape were a loose confederation of Algonquin tribes, who at the opening of the seventeenth century, occupied a continuous territory from Delaware Bay to Manhattan Island and up the west bank of the Hudson to Kingston, New York. This included the coast of Delaware north of Cape Henlopen, most of New Jersey, a piece of southeastern New York and Pennsylvania east of the height of land between the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. It seems that there were no permanent Indian settlements in Upper Saucon. The valley of the Lehigh, except for the usual spring bushnet fishing, had no great attractions for the Delawares; they preferred to locate their little villages between the northern slope of the Blue Mountains and the north branch of the Susquehanna. The Lehigh Valley, however, was the favorite and main route to the settlements on the Delaware and in New Jersey, both by water and trail. The numerous Indian arrowheads, some dating back to prehistoric times, found in Upper Saucon Township are strong evidence that the Indians travelled and hunted frequently in this area.

Picture of arrowheads submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Regis Leonard found in the yard of their house on Limeport Pike near Limeport.

In the seventeenth century, there were three divisions of Delawares, resting on a geographical base. These divisions are not known to have had a formal government, but their members possessed a sense of belonging; they were the Unamis, Unalachtigos and Muneses or Minisinks. The Unamis or "Down River People" lived on the right bank of the lower Delaware and its tributaries from the Lehigh to the mouth of the Schuylkill, a territory that included today's Upper Saucon Township. Their symbol was the turtle and that is the reason why so many of these emblems are found in the Saucon Valley.

John Heckewelder tells us why the Unamis were proud of their class totem:

The Tortoise, or as it is commonly called, the Turtle tribe, among the Lenape, claims a superiority and ascendancy over the others, because their relation, the great Tortoise, a fabled monster, the Atlas of their mythology, bears according to their traditions this great island on his back,

and also because he is amphibious, and can live both on land and in the water, which neither of the heads of the other tribes can do.

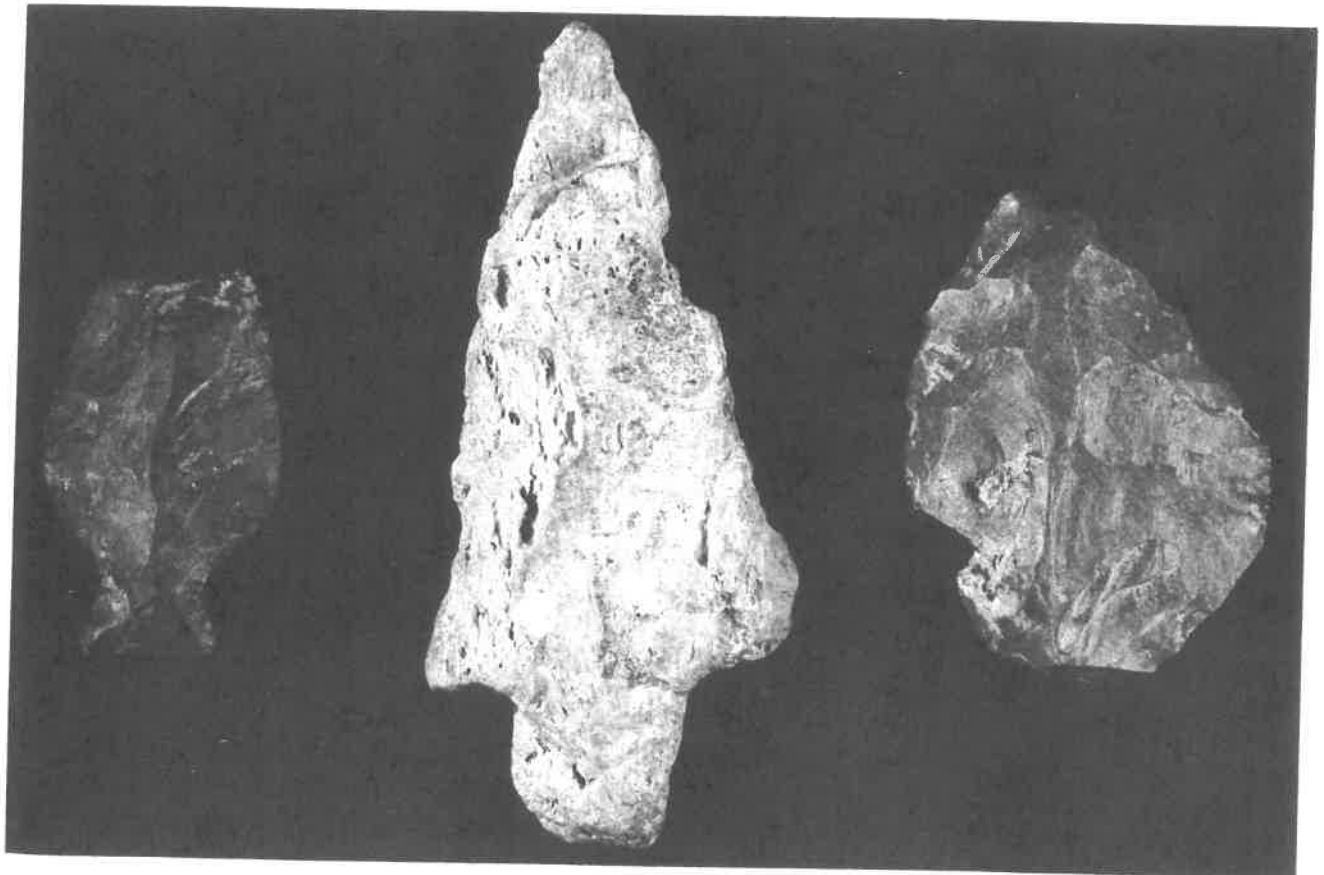
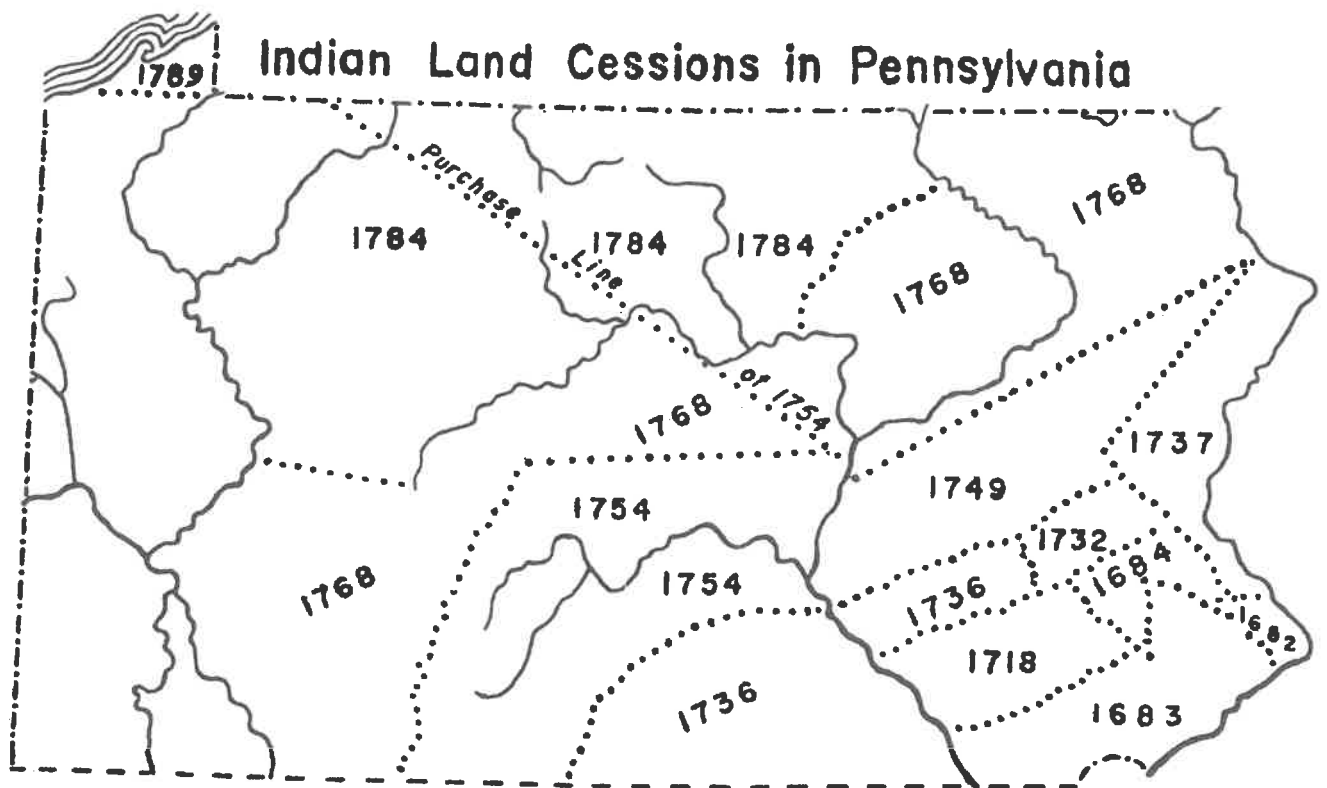
Each tribe of the Lenape recognized a chieftain, called sachem, and by common and ancient consent, the chief selected from the turtle totem was head chief of the whole Lenape nation. It was therefore, with the Unamis and their chief that William Penn dealt for the land ceded him in the deed of July 15, 1682. This deed was for the lands between the falls of Delaware and Nehammonys Creek which includes most of southeastern Pennsylvania. The deed was confirmed by William Penn on October 24, 1682. Later purchases in the southeastern corner of Pennsylvania, which may have included Upper Saucon, took place in 1683, 1684, 1718, 1732 and 1737. Of special interest to our area is the purchase of September 7, 1732. With this deed, the Unami chief Sassoonan or Allumapees sold all the lands between "Lechay" (Lehigh) and "Kekachtenemin Hills" (Kittatinny or Blue Mountains) on the north, to the branches of the Delaware on the east and the waters falling into the Susquehanna on the west. This purchase by the proprietors included all the Lehigh Valley to the Lebanon Valley. The price paid to the Indians was as follows: 20 brass kettles, 100 coats of 2 yards each, 100 duffels 2 yards each, 100 blankets, 100 yards of half tick (half linen), 60 linen shirts, 20 hats, 6 made coats, 12 pair of shoes and buckles, 30 pair of stockings, 300 lbs. of gunpowder, 600 lbs. of lead, 20 fine guns, 12 gun locks, 50 tomahawks or hatchets, 50 planting hoes, 120 knives, 60 pair of scissors, 100 tobacco tongs (bunches?), 24 looking glasses 40 tobacco boxes, 1000 flints, 5 lbs. of paint, 24 dozens of gartering, 6 dozens of ribbons, 12 dozen rings, 200 awls (used to sew moccasins, etc.), 100 lbs. of tobacco, 400 pipes, 20 gallons of rum, 50 lbs. in money and 4 dozen Jews harps.

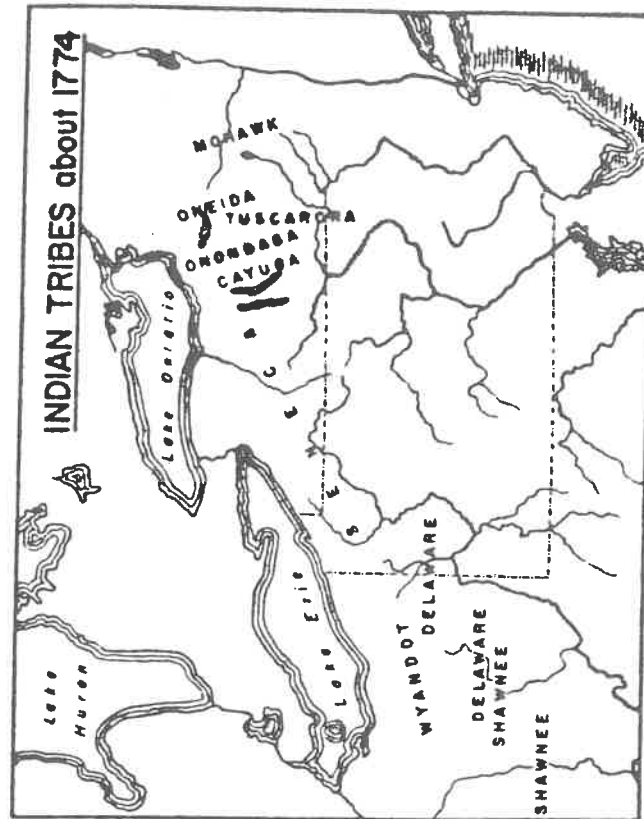
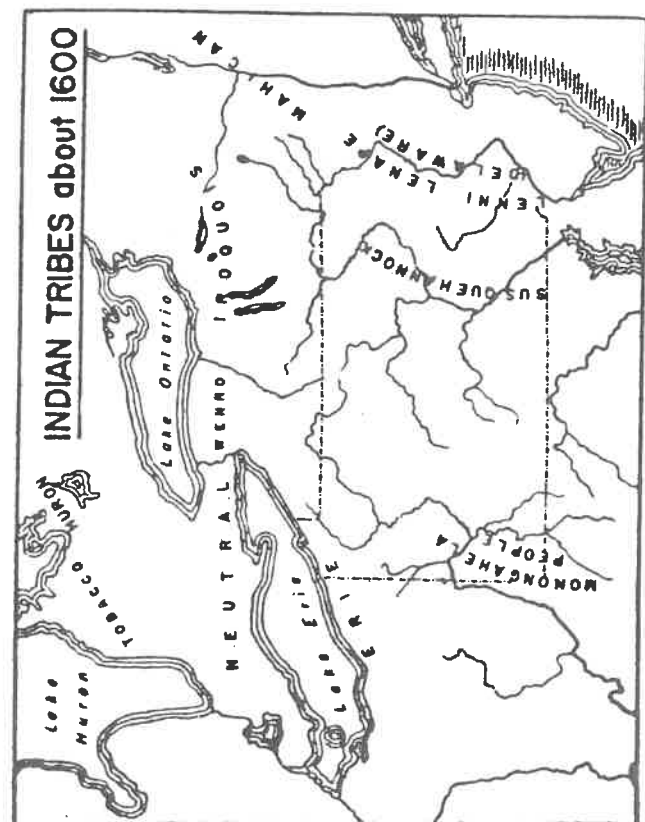
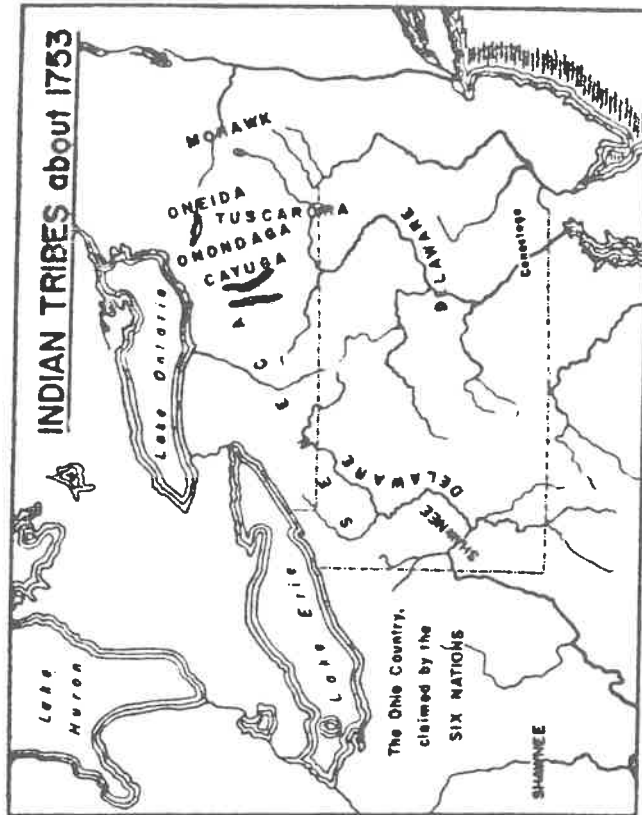
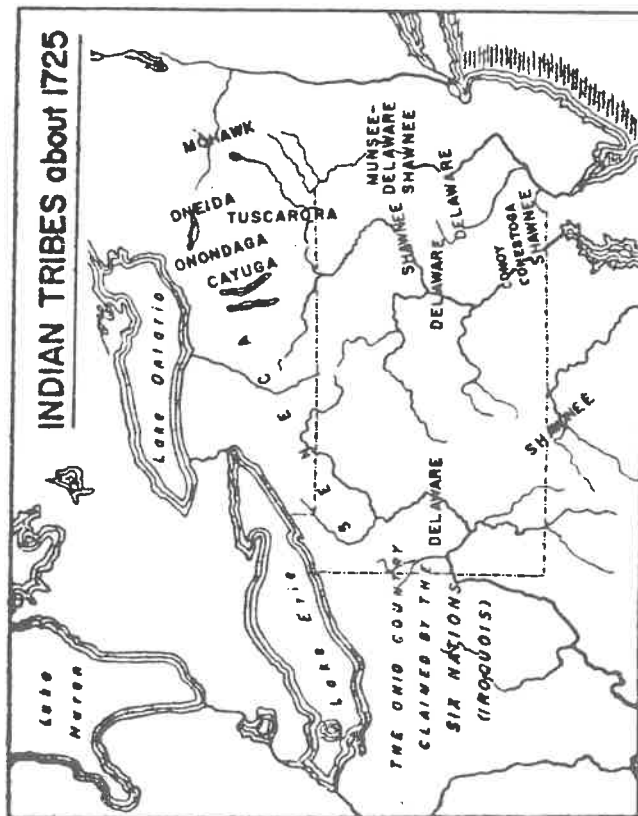
At first, the Indians did not realize that they were relinquishing their lands by selling them, and later they were powerless to stop the process of the white man's permanent settlement in the area. Although William Penn respected Indian right of domain and extinguished it only by purchase, his purpose still was to "plant a country". Therefore, he encouraged the immigration of British and other European farmers and merchants, offering them land on easy terms and promising them religious and political freedom. In the face of this colonial expansion, the Delawares began a movement of withdrawal from this area after the middle of the seventeenth century and like other Indian nations were in time dispersed throughout various parts of the west and Canada.

It creates a feeling of sadness to know that the grandson of William Penn, John Penn, who became Governor of Pennsylvania in 1763, in the city of brotherly love itself, in July, 1764, offered, by proclamation the following bounties:

For the Capture, or Scalps, and Death of Indians

For every male above the age of ten years, captured	\$150
For every male above the age of ten years, scalped (being killed)	\$130
For every Indian female and every male, under the age of ten years, captured	\$130
For every female above the age of ten, scalped, being killed	\$50





## ROADS

*by Anneliese Adenstedt*

The earliest "road" that ran through the township was an Indian trail, known as the Minsi or Minisink Trail. It began at the Delaware north of Philadelphia, entered the Lehigh Valley along the course of the Saucon Creek, and then led on through Nazareth to Wind Gap.

It is very difficult to recognize local roads after so many years. Therefore, only some of the more important roads will be discussed. A map in the Lehigh County Historical Society Proceedings, v. 18, 1950, shows an early road in 1738 coming from Philadelphia and dividing at Center Valley, one branch going to Allentown and the other to Bethlehem. The road entering the township on the Lehigh Mountain near Lanark, passing Lanark and Heller's tavern to a point near the residence of William P. Weidner, and thence (turning right) to Locust Valley was opened in 1750. It also went straight ahead to Center Valley (today's Lanark and Blue Church roads). The road from Coopersburg to Bethlehem, via Center Valley, Friedensville and Colesville was opened in 1755. The road from Friedensville to Limeport via Heller's tavern in 1773. In 1795, the Bethlehem road was relocated so that it no longer followed the Saucon to its mouth, but passed through Coopersburg, Center Valley, and over South Mountain to the site of the Old Crown Inn, which a year earlier had been converted into a farmhouse. Also, at the end of the 18th century the number of dirt roads connecting farms and villages increased.

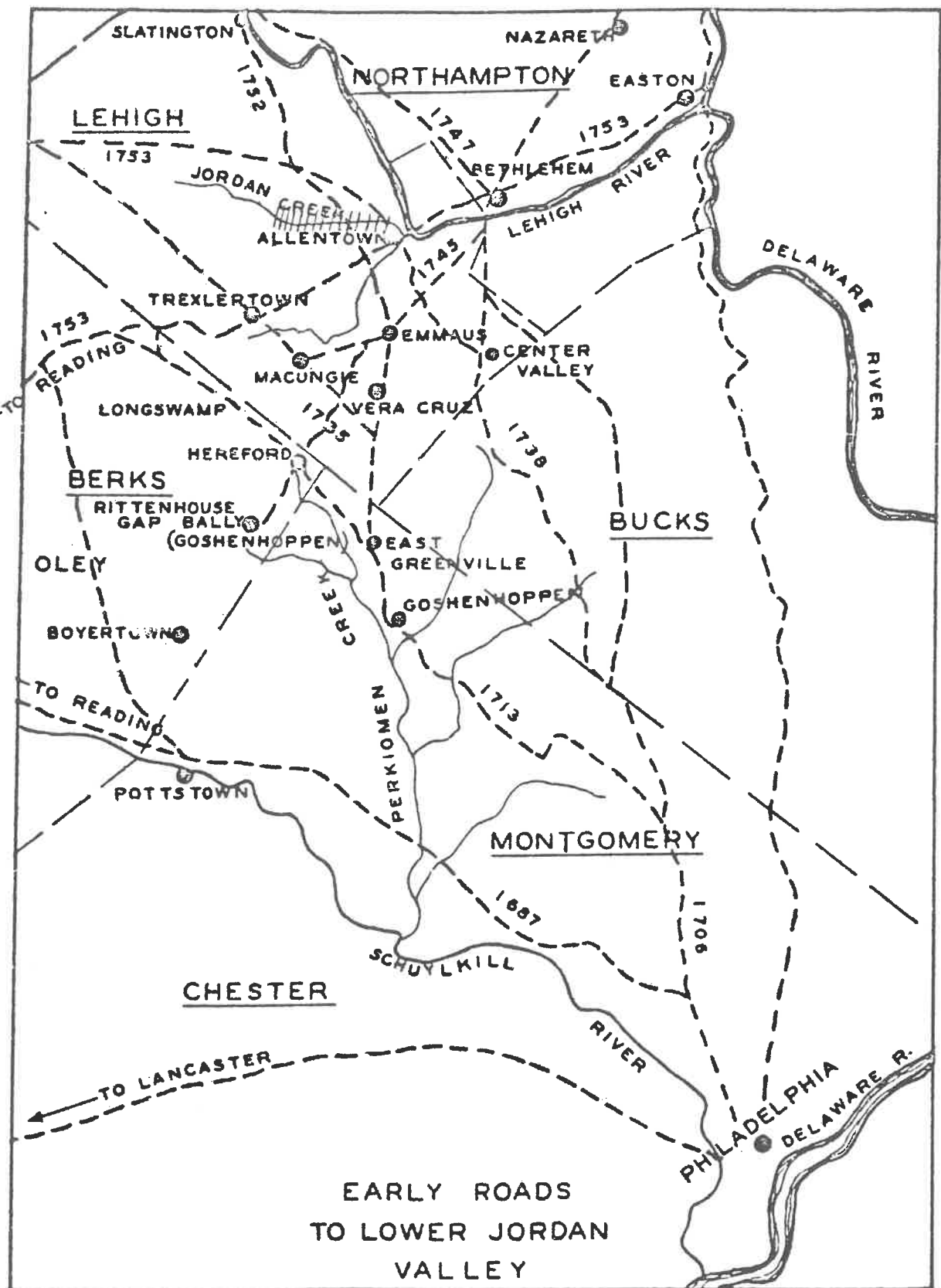
Throughout most of the 19th century we see an extension of turnpikes. The turnpike companies were chartered by state legislature and they defrayed their costs by charging tolls. In 1805, the Springhouse and Bethlehem Turnpike Company took over and improved the Bethlehem Road. The Allentown and Coopersburg turnpike road was chartered in 1874, and opened for travel in 1875. It followed the course of the old Philadelphia road with a few minor changes. There were four toll gates, one at Coopersburg, one at Center Valley, one at Mountainville and one at South Allentown. This road was not very popular with most farmers because of the heavy toll. The fare from below Center Valley for a 2 horse team was 20 cents, for a carriage, 22 cents; 1 horse team (heavy), 12 cents; 1 horse and buggy, 16 cents.

Stock subscription books were opened by the Springhouse, Allentown and Bethlehem Turnpike Company in Philadelphia at the Coffee House; in Montgomery Square at the inn of John Weber; in Bucks County at the inn of Samuel Sellers; in Lehigh County at the hotel of Joseph Frey; in Allentown at the hotel of George Savitz, and in Bethlehem at the hotel of Joseph Rice. The books remained open there daily for a period of six days. One or several of the following turnpike company commissioners were on hand at the above places:

William Tilghman  
Peter Knepley  
Evan Jones  
John Weber  
James Greenleaf  
Joe Hartzel  
George Huber  
William Green

Andreas Schlichter  
John Roberts  
Silas Hough  
Samuel Sellers  
Abraham Rinker  
Philip Wind  
Owen Rice

In 1903, the Pennsylvania Department of Highways was organized and began constructing macadam roads. About the same time, the state began taking over the turnpikes. In 1907, the Bethlehem Pike was condemned by court and passed to the control of the county. Three years later the Coopersburg Pike met the same end. In 1921 the federal system of highways was created, and within a few years U.S. 309 was constructed. It took the place of the old Coopersburg Pike.



## ORIGINAL TITLES

*by Fran Petro and Ruby Reinik*

In doing any type of research ----- on a family geneology, the history of a village or township, the ownership of a historical building or landmark, the very first thing that everyone wants to know is ..... HOW OLD IS IT? This is a difficult question to answer: first, are we talking about when the property was first acquired? or, are we considering when the first building was erected on the property? or, perhaps we are interested in when the first person actually improved the property? Most people tend to believe that the earliest date on a deed records the age of the building currently on that particular piece of property; unfortunately, this is usually not true.

Since the areas that were settled first usually offer additional information on the stages of development within an area, we are presenting the history of the Original Tracts of Land Grants within the Township in two stages: first, we are listing the tracts in sequence based on the dates that the warrants were issued; and, secondly, we will list them in numerical order in an attempt to facilitate easier location on the Map showing the grants. For additional information also included in this chapter is a Census Map of the Township showing the location, by family name, of the owners of property in 1862 and again another Map showing owner location done in 1876. The land grant information is based on an accumulation of data presented in all three published histories on Upper Saucon Township.

Before proceeding further with the land grants, we would like to present additional background information. Prior to 1752, this area was a part of Bucks County. On the 11th day of March, in 1752, Governor James Hamilton signed the bill making a new County — that of Northampton — out of part of Bucks County.

The Assembly did not name this new county; Thomas Penn in a letter to Deputy Governor Hamilton in 1751 had indicated "Whenever there is a new county, it shall be called Northampton." Thomas's daughter had just married Lord Pomfret and he lived in Northamptonshire. In 1812 a portion of Northampton County was dissected into a new County, that of Lehigh. Each time a division into a new county occurred, boundary lines were modified. The last boundary change made to Upper Saucon Township was on May 5, 1838, when the boundaries of Salisbury and Upper Saucon were corrected and legally fixed.

As a convenience, the first group of original titles presented have the names of the signers of the township organization (March of 1743) italicized; you will note that, in many instances, they often owned more than one tract of land. It was a common practice for the early settlers to choose the best land available; then, if at a later time additional land became available, they would procure it for their increasing family.

Initially, when a settler decided on a particular parcel of land, he would apply for a warrant from the Proprietors of the State via their agents. This warrant implied a desire to purchase the property in the future for a set sum. If, after a number of years, the settler was able to accumulate the desired sum of money, the land was then patented to him. Included in this transaction was a 6% allowance . . . . by this means the settler received, for example, 106 acres instead of 100 acres . . . . to allow for future road expansions. It should also be noted that many a settler lived on the property for as long as 10 years before applying for a warrant.

One last point . . . . in reading through the original titles you will oft times come across the statement that a house is built on the site of the original settlers claim; this means that an earlier building (in most cases a small, log structure) had previously occupied the site and had been replaced by a newer structure.

DATE of ORIGINAL TRACT	TRACT NO.	SOLD TO	SOLD BY
1682 — August 23	26 and 42	Matthew Marks	William Penn
1682 — March 13*	26 and 42	Richard Haynes, Jr.	Matthew Marks
1700 — December 12	26 and 42	Haynes' Heirs	Estate of Haynes
1718 — (or earlier)	38 and 118	Penn's Grandsons	William Penn
1729 — April 16	38 and 118	William Penn**	Springet Penn
1730 — March 5	38 and 118	William Allen	William Penn**
1731	38 and 118	<i>Philip Geissinger &amp; John Reezer</i>	William Allen
1732 — January 30	94	Casper Wistar	Proprietors
1734 — June 8	40	<i>Christian Newcomer</i>	"
1734 — October 23	44	John Burk	"
1734 — November 9	29	<i>Henry Keiber (alias Geber)</i>	"
1735 — March 17	25	<i>Owen Owen</i>	"
1735 — October 31	67	<i>Samuel Newcomer</i>	"
1735	54	<i>William Morry</i>	Thomas Penn
1735	95	<i>George Bachman</i>	Proprietors
1736	12	<i>Henry Rumfield</i>	"
1737 — January 4	90	John Rothrock (later Henry Weber)	"
1737 — January 9	140	Conrad Walb	"
1737 — May 24	94	George Zewitz	Casper Wistar
1737 — September 27	89, 106, and 108	Valentine Young	Proprietors
1737	14	<i>George Morsteller</i>	Proprietors
1737	46, 47, 48, and 49	<i>John Tool</i>	"
1738 — February 20	41	<i>Valentine Steinmetz</i>	"
1738 — February 20	85	<i>Michael Weaver (Weber?)</i>	"
1738 — June 26	58	<i>Benedict Gehman</i>	"
1738 — July 28	111 and 112	<i>John Apple</i>	"
1738 — September 13	60 and 92	Richard Thomas	"
1738 — October 4	43	<i>Joseph Samuels</i>	"
1738 — October 27	27	Owen Owen	"
1738	117	<i>John Yoder</i>	"
1739 — March 5	38 and 118	William Allen	William Penn**
1739 — June 8	114	<i>George Strahan (George Trohn?) ***</i>	Proprietors
1739 — August 11	30, 28, and 20	John Pugh	"
1739 — November 7	86, 87, and 88	Henry Weber	"
1740 — January 21	55	William Morry	"
1740	9	Carl Lutwich Keiper	"
1740	31	John Thomas	"

\*The apparent discrepancy in these dates is accounted for by the fact that the legal year of England then began on March 25th; hence, the 23rd of August occurred before the 13th of March.

\*\*The William referred to is the brother of Springet Penn; grandsons of William Penn.

\*\*\*Later to Peter Hillegass, date unknown.



1740	120 and 121	<i>Tobias Bahl</i>	"
1741 — January 2	60 and 92	Thomas Blackledge (alais Blockley)	Richard Thomas
1741 — April 1	17	Owen Owen	"
1741 — April 1	53	Christian Menter	"
1741 — May 9	50	William Morry	Proprietors
1741 — October 19	68	Samuel Newcomer	"
1742 — January 10	8, 22, 10, and 21	Samuel Everard Kop, Peter Marsteller, and Philip Geissinger	"
1742 — February 14	115	Christian Rinker	"
1742 — February 25	36	Balthauser Beil	"
1742 — June 3	6	Thomas Mayberry****	"
1742 — June 22	37	Rev. John Justus Jacob Berkensstock	"
1742 — December 18	29	Henry Taylor	Henry Keiber (Geber)
1742 —	45	David Owen	Proprietors
1742	34	George Bachman	"
1742	35	George Reinhard	"
1743 — February 22	135	John Miller	"

..... March, 1743 ..... Upper Saucon Organized into a Township . . . .

1743 — March 22	58	Balthauser Beil and Samuel Newcomer	Benedict Gehman
1743 — March 29	53	William Morry	Christian Menier
1743 — June 23	26 and 42	Joseph Samuels	Haynes' Heirs
1743 — July 4	26	David Owen	Joseph Samuels
1743 — July 4	42, Southern Half	<i>Isaac Samuels</i>	Joseph Samuels
1744 — January 24	103 and 104	Philip Trapp	Proprietors
1744	93	Andrew Wint	"
1745	74	Balthausar Beil	"
1745	32	Peter Marsteller	Proprietors
1746 — February 3	33	William Petz	"
1746 — May 14	113	Henry Cressman	"
1746 — October 13	65, 71, 72, and 73	Peter Messemer and Jacob Lodwig	"
1747 — November 23	42 — Northern Half	Henry Brunner	Joseph Samuels
1747 — November 23	43	Henry Brunner	Joseph Samuels
1747	105	Erasmus Boschius	Proprietors
1748 — December 9	125	Jacob Zewitz	"
1748	4	Frederick Derfinger	"
1749 — February 10	5 and 19	David Owen	"
1749 — March 2	2	John Elfree	"
1749 — July 20	1	John Koehler	"
1749 — December 21	80	Anthony Boehm	"
1750 — May 21	24	Jacob Bachman	"

\*\*\*\*Adam Warner may have owned this tract prior to Mayberry's occupancy.

1750 — August 7	7	Valentine Sherrer	"
1750 — September 14	8, 22, 10, and 21	Philip Geissinger	Kop & Marstellar
1750	3	Frederick Gardner	Proprietors
1752 — May 10	16	Thomas Owen	"
1752 — September 20	44	Michael Seider	John Burk
1752 — November 10	18	Thomas Owen	Proprietors
1753 — December 20	38, 28, and 20	Abraham Danahower	John Pugh
1754 — January 4	69	John Newcomer	Proprietors
1754 — March 16	56	Balthauser Beil	Proprietors
1758 — April 24	140	Philip Geissinger	Walb's Heirs
1759 — November 19	17	Christopher Hansel	David Owen
1760 — January 8	25	Christopher Hansel	David Owen
1763 — June 2	65, 71, 72, and 73	Andrew Wint	Peter Messemer and Jacob Lodwig
1764 — December 22	135	John Yoder	John Miller
1769 — December 13	27	David Owen	Owen Owen
1788 — April 12	4	Daniel Smith	Fred Derfingher
1789 — April 11	18	Mathias Egner	Thomas Owen
1789 — November 23	2	George Dutt	John Elfree
1790 — January 25	16	Mathias Egner	Thomas Owen
1794 — February 11	24	Philip Sharry	Jacob Rachman
1809 — January 24	7	Conrad Miller	Valentine Sherrer
1811 — September 9	116	John Butz (Alias Pitz)	John Pugh

NOTE: All of the titles from this point on did not carry dates; however, we are listing them in the same sequence as the books in the event that they had been listed in a chronological order.

102	Matheis Otto	Proprietors
127 and 128	Jacob Gongwer	"
91	Ludwig Bush	"
130 and 133	Adam Kurtz	"
129	John Philip Flexer	"
122	John Rothrock	"
49	John Tool	"
96	John Adam Stout	"
97	George Bachman	"
98	Cornelius Crump	"
137	Christian Fry	"
119	John Yoder	"
11	George Bachman	"
13	George Bastian	"
15	Jacob Kebler	"
23	George Bachman	"
39	George Bachman	"
52	Adam Romich	"
57	Henry Bachman	"
59	Henry Bachman	"
61	Peter Rhinehardt	"
62	Lutheran Congregation of Upper Saucon	"
63	William Schaffer	"

64	William Morry	"
66	Balthauser Beil	"
70	Balthauser Beil	"
75	Peter Messemer	"
76	Henry Weaver	"
77	Henry Weaver	"
78	Henry Weaver	"
79	Francis Hartman	"
81	Henry Geissinger	"
82	Anthony Boehm	"
83	Anthony Boehm	"
84	Anthony Boehm	"
90	George Bechtel	"
100	Jacob Weaver	"
101	Andrew Geissinger	"
107	Christian Fox	"
109	Bastian Nave	"
110	Melchior Baer	"
116	Adam Romich	"
123	Peter Bower	"
126	Jacob Landis	"
131	Jacob Weaver	"
132	Henry Rinker	"
134	Daniel Kiever	"
136	Peter Mosteller	"
138	Christian Smith	"
139	Adam Romich	"
141	John Apple	"
142	Leonard Boydelman	"
143	Jacob Bachman	"
144	Peter Cortz	"

#### ORIGINAL TITLES

- No. 1 On July 20, 1749, a warrant was issued to *John Koehler*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, January 12, 1760, a tract of 140 Acres. Owned in 1884 by Jacob Reinbold, Charles Shuler, Sebastian Wolf, George Walters, Ambrose Trumbauer, and Charles Daubert and being located in the northwestern section along the base of the Lehigh Mountain and up to the top. Owned in 1914 by Wilman Reinbold, Charles Shuler, Harvey Woodring, F. Newhard, Myron Schantzenbach, A. W. Trumbauer, and John Karness. (This section is along Vera Cruz Road in the Cozy Corner area.)
- No. 2 On March 2, 1749, a warrant was issued to *John Elfree* for a tract the extent of which cannot now be ascertained, but in pursuance of which a tract of 58 Acres, designated as "DUTTSBURG" was patented to *George Dutt* on November 23, 1789. Owned in 1884 by John Christ, George Walters, and Sares Bachman. Owned in 1914 by Hiram Koch, Charles Bachman, and Frederick Newhard. (This section is along Vera Cruz Road in the Cozy Corner area.)
- No. 3 About 1750, *Frederick Gardner* first occupied a tract of unknown extent, but the lands of Anthony Groff and Edwin Clewell (in 1914) are known to be part of it. In 1884 this land

- was occupied by Absolam Sell and Philip Meitzler. (This section lies between Vera Cruz Road and Limeport south of Cozy Corner.)
- No. 4 About 1748, *Frederick Derfanger* first occupied a tract of 180 acres, patented April 12, 1788, to Daniel Smith. In 1884 this property was owned by Rev. A. E. Erdman, the heirs of Henry Erdman, Sr. (deceased), and the heirs of Abraham Heller (deceased). In 1914 this was owned by George Schrammel, the heirs of Henry Erdman (deceased) and John Yoachim . . . approximately 40 Acres of this tract lies in Upper Milford. (The tract is located between the two branches of the Saucon Creek, between Vera Cruz Road and Limeport Pike.)
- No. 5 On February 10, 1749, warrants were issued to *David Owen*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him December 13, 1769, one tract of 64-½ acres, designated as "PER- PLEXITY", owned in 1884 by J. F. Matts, C. B. Kemmerer, and the heirs of Abraham Heller (deceased). In 1914 this property was owned by John Yoachim, A. P. Shaffer, and Llewellyn H. Bitting. The other tract, of 49 acres, was owned in 1884 by Peter Hottle and Solomon B. Reinhard; in 1914 it was owned by A. S. Ohl and the estate of Solomon B. Reinhard. (The later tract of land extends into Limeport; the larger tract consists of the area around the Limeport Pike where Dennis Trexler's farm is located.)
- No. 6 On June 3, 1742, a warrant was issued to *Thomas Mayberry* in pursuance of which there was patented to him, December 28th of the same year, a tract of 208-½ acres. *Adam Warner* seems to have had some title to the tract prior to Mayberry's occupancy of it, "probably a warrant which he allowed to lapse." The first residence on this tract stood on the site now occupied by the residence of William D. Dillinger, but whether erected by Mayberry or Adam Warner cannot now be ascertained. The tract is owned, in 1884, by William D. Dillinger, Joseph Wittman, Mrs. John A. Beck, Harrison Dubbs, Mrs. Jacob Bowman, David Fink, Charles T. Ott, Charles N. Bitting, Thomas K. Ott, and Thomas Shaffer. In 1914 the tract was owned by John Yoachim, William Miller, Lizzie Clader, Mrs. Henry Fink, Victor Cressman, C. W. Shaffer, L. J. Shaffer, Frank Schlener, the Gideon Roth estate, the Peter H. Trexler estate and Raymond Ritter. The sites of the village of Limeport and Dillinger's school-house are on this tract.
- No. 7 On August 7, 1750, a warrant was issued to *Valentine Sherrer*, in pursuance of which there was patented to Conrad Miller, January 24, 1809, a tract of 59-½ acres, designated as "Millerstown", owned in 1884 by the heirs of Peter Shaffer (deceased). Owned in 1914 by Raymond Ritter. (This would encompass the area currently occupied by the convalescent home close to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church.)
- No. 8 On January 10, 1742, and at various times thereafter, warrants were issued to *Samuel Everard Kop*, *Peter Marsteller*, and *Philip Geissinger*, in pursuance of which there were surveyed to Kop one tract of 134-¾ acres and another of 36 acres; to Marsteller one of 90-¾ acres; and to Geissinger one of 22-½ acres; but Kop and Marsteller failing to comply with the terms of their warrants they became void, when another warrant was issued to Geissinger for the four tracts, amounting to 284 acres; these were confirmed to him by patent September 14, 1750. Owned, in 1884, by Cornelius Weierbach, Ephraim Groman, Addison Groman, Elias Shaffer, John Walter, Charles Walter, Jacob Seidel, Adam Brinker, John Youndt, and Isaac Person. The first dwelling on this tract was erected by Samuel Everard Kop, on the site of the present residence of Cornelius Weierbach. In 1914 the owners were Mark Ruhe, Martin Simon, James Schnable, Oscar Young, Charles Walter, Jacob Seidel, Tilghman Kline, John Gaul and George Bienking. Albert Ohl's History, written in 1946 indicated that Ruhe was living in the Weierbach residence; Wasil Canarios was living in Ephraim Groman's; J. Schnable's estate owned the Addison Groman property; Paul and Oscar Young owned the Elias Shaffer property; Harkon Kemmerer had the John Walter property. (This tract covers Blue Church Road West, between the Church and Limeport.)

- No. 9 About 1740, *Carl Lutwich Keiper* first occupied a tract of about 200 acres, owned in 1884 by Isaac Neimeyer, Joshua Horlocher, Jesse Weiss, Andrew Walter, and G. W. Brinker. This tract was owned, in 1914, by Wilman Keck, Owen Engleman, Charles Miller, C. R. Groman, Mrs. Fred Jordan, Oscar Young and Mrs. Henry Fink, a part of the tract falls in Lower Milford. (Occupies the lower end of Blue Church Road towards Limeport.)
- No. 10 (Refer to Tract No. 8) (Covers Chestnut Hill Road beyond the intersection, on the North Side.)
- No. 11 Only available information is that *George Bachman* owned this tract. (The tract is in the area of the Chestnut Hill Road intersection on the South side of the road . . . . . the area includes the Southern Lehigh Library).
- No. 12 About 1736 a warrant was issued to *Henry Rumfield*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him soon after a tract of 200 acres, owned in 1884 by Dr. H. T. Trumbauer, Charles Moyer, Tilghman Weaver, Solomon Hottle, Laurentus Weaver and David Binder. It was owned, in 1914, by Mrs. Newton Young, William Weaver, Harry Lambert, Frank Binder, Mrs. John H. Stroud, and L. W. Weaver. (Beverley Hill Road)
- No. 13 It is known that *George Bastian* owned the property. (Locust Valley Road)
- No. 14 About 1737, *George Morsteller* had issued to him a warrant, in pursuance of which, there was patented to him, March 25, 1740, a tract of 200 acres the property of Daniel Dubbs, Daniel Egner, Benjamin Rothrock, Thomas Shaffer, and Mrs. Mahlon Huber in 1884. It was further occupied by the village of Locust Valley. In 1914 the property was owned by Edwin S. Kuhns, Deborah Beichlag and Elmer Carl.
- No. 15 *Jacob Kebler* owned this tract. (The area encompassing Vera Cruz Road along the boundary of Salisbury Township.)
- No. 16 On May 10, 1752, a warrant was issued to *Thomas Owen*, in pursuance of which there was patented to *Mathias Egner*, January 25, 1790, a tract of 39 acres, designated as "GAUL", owned in 1884 by Owen Bitting, Lavinus Bitting, Amandas Erney, and F. T. Jobst. This tract was owned by E. D. Jeans, Edward M. Smith, Theodore Gesner, and the Iobst estate in 1914. Ohl's History indicates that the Iobst land is still woodland in the 1944's. (This section lies between Vera Cruz Road and the Salisbury Township Boundary.)
- No. 17 On April 1, 1741, a warrant was issued to *Owen Owen*, by virtue of which there was surveyed to his son, *Thomas Owen*, a tract of 90 acres. This was conveyed by him to *Christopher Hansel*, to whom it was patented November 19, 1759. The tract is now owned, 1884, by Charles B. Egner, Owen Bitting, Monroe Reinhold, Mrs. Charles Kidd, John Trexler, and Edwin Bitting. In 1914 it was owned by Charles B. Egner, E. D. Jeans, Theodore Gesner, A. W. Trumbauer, Alvin Kehm and Peter H. Ohl. (Vera Cruz Road east of Cozy Corner around intersection at Groff's.)
- No. 18 On November 10, 1752, a warrant was issued to *Thomas Owen*, in pursuance of which there was patented to *Mathias Egner*, April 11, 1789, a tract of 85 acres owned, in 1884, by Charles H. Erdman, Edwin Bitting, and John J. Trexler. This property was owned, in 1914, by O. G. Erdman, Peter H. Ohl, Alvin Kehm, Jacob Sell, and Frank B. Heller. (This tract lies between the 2 branches of the Saucon Creek between Chestnut Hill Road and Cozy Corner Road.)
- No. 19 Refer to Tract No. 5 (Section is on the Limeport Highway around the Standard area.)
- No. 20 On August 11, 1739, warrants were issued to *John Pugh* for 350 acres of land, one tract of 116 acres, and another of 34 acres, which were patented to *Abraham Danahower*, December 30, 1753. In 1884, the 116 acre tract was owned by the heirs of Abraham Heller (deceased), Ephraim Weaver, and James Giess; in 1914 it was owned by Frank B. Heller, John Mock, and Charles E. Weaver. It is further occupied by Seider's School House. The 34 acre tract was owned, in 1884, by James Giess and J. Adam Egner. In 1914 John Mock and Horace C. Shaffer owned the 34 acres. The remaining 200 acres, designated as "HICKORY DALE", were patented to *John Bitz, alias Pitz*, September 9, 1811 and in 1884

- were owned by Harrison Dubbs, Peter Trexler, Edward Bitting, J. Adam Egner, James Giess, Charles R. Weaver, Wendle Simon, Manasses Rice, and John Youndt. The Peter H. Trexler estate, Frank Schlener, William Kies, H. C. Shaffer, John Mock, Harvey Yoder, E. Z. Young, John Gaul, and the Wendle Simon estate owned this tract in 1914. (This section is along Chestnut Hill Road and the Standard Area towards the intersection with Blue Church Road.)
- No. 21 Refer to Tract No. 8. (This is the Chestnut Hill Road towards Blue Church Road.)
- No. 22 Refer to Tract No. 8. (This is the Chestnut Hill Road toward Apple Butter Road.)
- No. 23 This tract was owned by *George Bachman*. (It is along Blue Church Road.)
- No. 24 On May 21, 1750 a warrant was issued to *Jacob Bachman*, in pursuance of which there was patented to *Philip Sharry*, February 11, 1794, a tract of 71- $\frac{1}{4}$  acres, designated as "PHILIPSBURG", owned, in 1884, by Henry Wieder; owned, in 1914, by Elias Walb. (This includes the cross roads at Chestnut Hill Road and Vera Cruz Road towards the mountain.)
- No. 25 On March 17, 1735, a warrant was issued to *Owen Owen* for a tract of land situated near the head of the "Soccong" Creek. In pursuance of this warrant there was patented, September 26, 1735, to the said Owen a tract of 100 acres. After the death of Owen the tract came into the possession of his son, *David*, who conveyed it to *Christopher Hansel*, January 8, 1760. Hansel was the first to erect a dwelling thereon, which he did on the site occupied by the mansion house of Charles Kidd in 1884; the same property occupied by James Kidd in 1914. The balance of the tract was owned, in 1884, by Charles B. Egner, Mrs. William Guth, and the heirs of Abraham Heller (deceased). The tract in 1914 was possessed by James Kidd, Charles B. Egner, W. H. Knappenberger, Theodore Gessner and the heirs of Abraham Heller, (deceased). (This section would cover the area from the crossroads at Vera Cruz Road and Chestnut Hill to the crossroads of Limeport Pike and Chestnut Hill Road.)
- No. 26 On July 4, 1743, *Samuels* conveyed the tract designated on his deed as No. 1 to *David Owen of Philadelphia*, who established his residence on the farm now of Frank B. Heller (1914). A large part of this tract too, might be said to have remained in the family ever since. Paul Heller, grandfather of Frank B., having purchased it from his step-daughter, Elizabeth Owen, a great-granddaughter of David Owen. In 1884, the tract was owned by the heirs of Abraham Heller (deceased), the heirs of Isaac Mast (deceased), John Brinker, G. W. Brinker, Jacob M. Erdman, Charles H. Erdman, and Peter Hottel. By 1914 the tract was owned by Frank B. Heller, William Mast, H. T. Erdman, O. G. Erdman, Augustus S. Ohl, J. M. Erdman, Alfred A. Sell, Henry Shiffert, and W. N. Simon. Ohl's history indicates that William Brinker was a school teacher who became known as Squire Brinker. (This tract incorporated Seider's School House and the intersection of Chestnut Hill Road and Limeport Pike.) (SEE NOTES ON TRACT NO. 42 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.)
- No. 27 On October 27, 1738, a warrant was issued to *Owen Owen*, by virtue of which there was patented, December 13, 1769, to his son, *David Owen*, a tract of 45- $\frac{1}{2}$  acres, designated as "PATIENCE", and adjoining No. 1, of the Haynes tracts, "heretofore referred to as having been purchased by him of Joseph Samuels". In 1884, the tract was included in the farms of Jacob M. Erdman, Abraham Heller (deceased), Charles H. Erdman, Peter Hottel, and J. Adam Egner. The tract, in 1914, included the farms of Jacob M. Erdman, Frank B. Heller, O. G. Erdman, A. S. Ohl, and Horace C. Shaffer. (This section goes up Chestnut Hill Road on the other side of the Limeport Pike around, and including, the Standard School area.)
- No. 28 (See note on No. 20.) This tract covers the same area as Tract No. 27.)
- No. 29 On November 9, 1734, a warrant was issued to *Henry Keiber*, alias, *Geber*, in pursuance of which there was surveyed to him a certain tract of land situated on "Saccoon Creek", and

- on the 7th of December, 1739, another warrant issued to him for another tract, adjoining the above, but he failing to comply with the terms of his warrants, the land was forfeited to the proprietaries, who caused another warrant, bearing date December 18, 1742, to be issued to *Henry Taylor* for the 2 tracts. In pursuance of this latter warrant there was patented to Taylor, June 20, 1743, a tract of 227- $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Fully one-half of the tract remained in the family, "though under the name of Schneider", until quite recently. It was owned, in 1884, by David Schneider, William H. Walbert, and Charles B. Egner. The first residence on the tract was erected on the site of that now occupied by Charles B. Schneider, on the farm of David Schneider, but whether erected by Keiber, or Taylor, cannot now be ascertained. Ohl's History of 1944 indicated that Preston Lichtenwalter, currently Lloyd Lichtenwalter, was living on this site. In 1914 the tract was owned by James Lichtenwalner, Charles B. Egner, William H. Walbert, Stephens and Slough, and Paul Mattes. (This tract lies to the east of Chestnut Hill Road from the border of the Township towards Limeport Pike and includes Groff's, Soltz's and the intersection.)
- No. 30 (Refer to the note on Tract No. 20.) (This tract covers the same area as Tract No. 29 but comes over to Limeport Pike; it includes the new development — Mountain Green which is on the Wagner (Elmer Wagner's parents' Farm.)
- No. 31 About 1740 a warrant was issued to *John Thomas* for 200 acres owned, in 1884, by Isaac Mast (deceased), Zebulon Stephens, Peter M. Sell, and Isaac Zeiner. This tract, in 1914, comprised the properties of William Mast, S. L. Stephens, Thomas P. Sell, Clayton De Witt, and Christian Bailer. (This tract runs along Hopewell Road from the area of the school to and including P. W. Sales and includes the area covered by Weintraub's property back to the school.)
- No. 32 About 1745 *Peter Marsteller* drew a warrant in pursuance of which there was surveyed to him soon after a tract of 86 acres, owned in 1884 by John Giess, O. S. Reinhard, and Francis Brinker. Owned in 1914 by John Kropf, John Pospischilla, and Ezekiah Brinker. (This section lies between Hopewell Road and Spring Drive half way between AppleButter Hill and Lanark Road.)
- No. 33 On February 3, 1746, a warrant was issued to *William Pitz*, in pursuance of which there was patented to his son, *Henry Pitz*, May 2, 1788, a tract of 119- $\frac{1}{2}$  acres, designated as "PITZBURG", owned, in 1884, by James Reinhard, George Brinker, Peter M. Sell, Daniel Mory, and Ephraim Geissinger. In 1914 the owners were Steve Sabler, William Schlosser, A. A. Sell, and George Schmelzer. Ohl's book lists the owners as John Wolfer, John Knopf (formerly George Brinker), Peter M. Sell (this part is still woodland), Alvin Vanim (this used to be Daniel Morey's place — later, Francis Reinhard). (This section lies south and east of the intersection of Chestnut Hill Road and AppleButter Hill, along AppleButter Hill south towards the Blue Church.)
- No. 34 About 1742 a warrant was issued to *George Bachman* in pursuance of which there was surveyed to him a tract of 40 acres, owned, in 1884, by Thomas Brunner, Elias Shaffer, and Charles Moyer. Owned, in 1914, by Frank Kiess, Oscar Young, and Harry Cramer. (This section would lie to the west of AppleButter Hill between the intersection with Chestnut Hill and the Blue Church.)
- No. 35 About 1742 a warrant was issued to *George Reinhard*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him November 10, 1762, a tract of 162 acres, owned in 1884 by Jacob H. Solliday, William H. Snyder, and Ephraim Geissinger. Owned, in 1914, by Norman J. Reinhard, Mrs. Elizabeth Yellis and Genaah Jordan. Ohl lists the ownership of this tract as being the Blue Church Apple Orchards, LaBoutelier, proprietor. (The tract lies on the Northern side of Blue Church Road and includes the orchard and the Reinhard tract.)
- No. 36 On February 25, 1742, a warrant was issued to *Christian Rinker*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, November 29, 1758, a tract of 55- $\frac{3}{4}$  acres, owned in 1884 by Sylvanus Fry, Benjamin Eisenhard, Addison Koch, and Abraham Yoder. Owned in 1914

- by Henry Hersh, Menno Huber, Reuben Huber, and John Mumbauer. (Tract covers the Blue Church Road from Ohl's Lane to the top of the hill.)
- No. 37 On June 22, 1742, a warrant was issued to *Rev. John Justus Jacob Berkenstock*, in pursuance of which there was patented to his son-in-law, Peter Fuchs, March 1, 1775, a tract designated as "FOXCRAFT", and containing 110- $\frac{3}{4}$  acres. Berkenstock established his residence near the site of the present residence (1884) of Peter B. Sell. In the 1914 history it indicated that the site was occupied by Joseph E. Illick. In 1884 the balance of the tract was owned by Peter B. Sell, Jacob Greenawalt, and Jordan and Brother. In 1914 the owners were Joseph E. Illick, Jacob Greenawalt and Genaah Jordan. Ohl's history added the following information with reference to the original site of Berkenstock's residence: "Bergenstock established his residence near the site of the present residence of Enos Keeler; other occupants of the tract were Jacob Greenewalt, Samuel Hartsanft, Henry Hersh estate, Tony Maule. Bergenstock was a German Reformed minister, before the reformed congregation joined with the Lutherans at the Blue Church (which was about 1803 or 1804), and services were held at his place. There is a graveyard on the place which indicates that there were some funerals held there; the graveyard is in poor condition." (The tract starts at the top of the hill on Blue Church Road and lies between the Liberty Road and Robin Lane areas.)
- No. 38 A short time before his death, in 1718, *William Penn* made his last will and testament, in which, among many other bequests, he bequeathed to his grandsons: *Springet Penn* and *William Penn*, each the quantity of 10,000 acres of land, to be allotted and set out in some proper and beneficial places in the province of Pennsylvania. On April 16, 1729, Springet Penn conveyed his title to these lands to his brother, William, who soon after conveyed his title to all to *William Allen*, to whom a warrant, under date of March 5, 1730, was issued, in pursuance of which the land was located and surveyed to him, one tract of 372 acres and another of 300 acres falling within the township. Allen soon after sold the greater part of the 372 acre tract to *Philip Geissinger*, and the greater part of the 300 acre tract to *John Reezer*, both to yield and pay to him, if lawfully demanded, a quit-rent of one pepper-corn annually. The 372 acre tract, in 1884, was owned by the heirs of Andrew Bean (deceased), Henry Bean, Jacob Detweiler, Jacob Greenawalt, Jessiah Klein, Reuben Opp, Owen Heller, David Stover, Charles H. Blank, and Thomas Trumbore. It is further occupied by the new cemeteries adjoining the Blue Church property. In 1914 this 372 acre tract was owned by Henry Bean, Daniel Detweiler, Jacob Greenawald, Morris C. Schneck, S. L. Stephens, John H. Stroud, F. C. Black, The Thomas Trumbore estate and the new cemeteries adjoining the Blue Church Property. Ohl's history further states that Jacob Detweiler's property became Dan Detweiler's; Owen Heller's became Sol Stephen's farm; David Stover became the Stroud's Mill property; Charles Blank became Frank Blank's; and that Thomas Trumbore's occupation was that of a blacksmith. The 300 acre tract was owned, in 1884, by Mr. Roth, late Abraham Stauffer's mill property, John Landis, Jacob Landis, John Yoder, and Abel Strawn. A part of it is also embraced within the borough of Coopersburg. In 1914 the tract was owned by A. F. Landis, John Jacoby, Sylvanus Landis, Harry Fehnel, Jessiah Frantz, Oscar Landis, the P and R R. R. Company and part of Coopersburg. (The tract includes everything along Glen Road and the Blue Church Area; then proceeds south along old 309 and covers the area between Liberty Road and Mill Road.)
- No. 39 The tract belonged to *George Bachman*. (Blue Church area)
- No. 40 On June 8, 1734, a warrant was issued to *Christian Newcomer*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, May 8, 1738, a tract of 121- $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Solomon Stephens, John C. Newcomer, Lando K. Moyer, and Abraham Wimmer owned this tract in 1884; S. L. Stephens, Monroe Wimmer, Jeremiah Wannemaker, and Miss McIntosh owned the tract in 1914. (The tract includes Blue Church Road towards Locust Valley.)
- No. 41 On February 20, 1738, and at various times thereafter, warrants were issued to Valentine



Steinmetz, in pursuance of which there were patented to him, February 9, 1760, and at various times thereafter, four adjoining tracts amounting to 313- $\frac{3}{4}$  acres. He established his residence on the farm owned (in 1884) by the John H. Laubach estate. The tracts are now owned (1884) by John H. Laubach, John G. Blank, Gideon Ritter, Abraham Blank, and Jacob Blank. The owners, in 1914, were John H. Laubach estate, J. G. Blank estate, Voortman Brothers, Harvey Minnich, Jacob Trapp and others. Ohl's history indicates that the John H. Laubach tract became John Reith's; John Blank's became Mrs. Calvin Davis; Gideon Ritter's became John Voortman and Jacob Blank's became Jacob Trapp's and Tom Beidler (deceased). (This tract includes the Vera Cruz road area around Voortman's and on the other side of the Golf Course . . . . the east end.)

No. 42

On the "three and twentieth" day of August, 1682. "*William Penn*, chief Proprietor and Governor of "ye Province of Pennsylvania," by Indentures of Lease and Release, conveyed to *Matthew Marks*, of Folkstone, county of Kent, carpenter, the quantity of 5,000 acres of land to be allotted and set out in said Province in accordance with the terms of said indentures. On March 13, 1682 Marks conveyed his title to these lands to *Richard Haynes, Jr.* of London, merchant". These indentures were made in England, the land to be located and surveyed thereafter. On December 12, 1700, a warrant was issued to the heirs of Haynes, "who had died in the mean time", in pursuance of which there was surveyed and patented, to them in 1730, in the right aforesaid, the aforesaid quantity of land, three tracts, of 150 acres each, of which were located on or near "Saucong" Creek.

On June 23, 1743 the heirs of Haynes for the consideration of E220, 17 shillings, conveyed these 3 tracts to Joseph Samuels of Saucong Creek, joiner. He settled on the tract designated in his deed as No. 2. "Northern half of No. 42", established his residence on the site of the mansion house on the farm now belonging to (in 1884) David Horlacher; in 1914 this property was the Isaac B. Meyers estate; Ohl lists it as being Rev. Hibschman and then Preston Lichtenwalter and Newberry Ulmer's. Samuels lived there until November 23, 1747, when he conveyed it to Henry Brunner, of Oley, by whose descendants a part of it has been held ever since, David Horlacher being a great-grandson of his. (Mrs. Isaac B. Meyers was a great-great-granddaughter of Brunner's.) The tract in 1884 was owned by David Horlocher, Newberry Ulmer, Amos Heller, John G. Blank, and Charles T. Yeager. In 1914 it was owned by the Isaac B. Meyers estate, the John G. Blank estate, Newberry Ulmer, Edward Ulmer, and William Trumbore. Ohl's history indicates that the Amos Heller section became Alton Knerr's; John Blank's became Mrs. Cal. Davidson; and Charles Yeagers was a piece of meadow land. (This tract consists on the property on the west side of Lanark Road starting south of Madle's store down to Hopewell Road and includes part of the Golf Course. It includes Franklin Lichtenwalner's farm and the farms behind it.)

No. 42

SOUTHERN HALF: On July 4, 1743 *Samuels* conveyed his remaining tract to his son, *Isaac*, who established his residence on the farm now of Alfred A. Sell. The tract is now owned (1884) by Peter M. Sell, Ephraim Weaver, Tilghman Smoyer, John G. Blank, Theophilus Kemmerer, and Abner Gerhard. In 1914 the tract was owned by Alfred A. Sell, Charles E. Weaver, William Moyer, William Cressman, Edward Ulmer, and the John G. Blank estate. Ohl's history indicates that the Sell property is now in the possession of Thomas Sell, John Blank's is now Mrs. Cal. Davidson's; and Gerhard's property is the mill. (This tract includes those houses back in the dirt lane, the first left after crossing the creek, on the Limeport Pike opposite the Golf Course.)

No. 43

On October 4, 1738, a warrant was issued to *Joseph Samuels* for a tract of 92- $\frac{1}{2}$  acres, adjoining No. 2 and No. 3 of the tracts purchased by him from the heirs of Haynes; but he not complying with the terms of the warrant it became void, and another was issued to *Henry Brunner*, November 23, 1747, in pursuance of which the tract was patented to him May 22, 1761. In 1884 this tract embraced the farms of David Horlocher, Newberry Ulmer, and Peter Sell; in 1914 it embraced the farms of Isaac B. Meyers, Newberry Ulmer and

- Alfred A. Sell. Ohl's history indicates the farm of Isaac B. Meyers was now occupied by Rev. Hibschan and that of Alfred Sell by Thomas Sell. (This includes the farmhouses and area behind the current Franklin Lichtenwalner farm at right angles to Lanark Road.)
- No. 44 On October 23, 1734, a warrant was issued to *John Burk* for 150 acres but he did not comply with its terms and it became void, and another warrant for the same tract was issued to *Michael Cyder, or Seider*, in pursuance of which it was patented to him September 20, 1752. Burk had established his residence on the site of the present mansion-house on the farm of Samuel Seider (deceased); he had also further improved the land, for all of which Seider paid him a sum mutually agreed upon. The greater part of this tract has remained in the Seider family ever since. In 1884 the tract was owned by the heirs of Samuel Seider (deceased), the heirs of Abraham Rice (deceased), James Dotterer, John Beck, William Weidner, Elias Nitrauer, and Peter Wittman. In 1914 the tract was owned by P. S. Fenstermaker, a lineal descendant of Michael Seider, Jacob Rice, Charles Schnell, Oliver Schnell, the W. P. Weidner estate, and John Beck. Ohl's history further explains that Percy Fenstermaker's mother was a Seider; Jacob Rice's property was owned by Mary Stover Bitner (this property now belongs to Walp); James Dotterer's property is still owned by Clarence Weidner; John Beck's property is the empty log cabin behind Afton Village, and Elias Nitrauer's was Benny Wilson. (This tract encompasses the land on either side of Lanark Road beginning at the intersection of Hopewell Road and continuing down to the intersection with Blue Church Road. Brown's house is the residence that Percy Fenstermaker lived in; the tract included the current development known as Afton Village; Benny Wilson's home was the stone house next to the Upper Saucon Volunteer Fire Company that was recently torn down; the Weidner estate refers to the area of Schnellman's Development.)
- No. 45 About 1742, a warrant was issued to *David Owen*, by virtue of which there was surveyed to him soon after a tract of 150 acres, now owned by the heirs of Hon. Jacob Erdman (deceased). In 1914 the owners were C. J. and P. K. Erdman. The tract has been held by the Erdman family about 165 years. Ohl's history expounds further: the tract was owned by Enos Erdman, Constable and Preston Erdman, Max, and Constatine Erdman and later by M. Herbert Biery, now Rodney Miller.
- No. 46 About 1737, and at various times thereafter, warrants were issued to *John Tool*, in pursuance of which there were patented to him about 1757 several adjoining tracts, amounting to 370 acres, now owned by (1884) Absalom Miller (Tool established his residence on the site of that now occupied by Miller.), Charles Wittman, Wainfield Stephens, William Rothrock, J. Owen Reinhard, Abraham Blank, Thomas Berkenstock, and Mrs. Dillig. In 1914 the owners were Henry Boehmer, F.W.B. Wittman, Esq., W. S. Stephens, Edwin Hartman, E. H. Wieder, Frank Weber, Harvey Minnich, J. R. Berkenstock, Morris Esterly and others. Ohl's history notes that James Berkenstock is living on his father's place and that he was 89 years of age in 1946; Abraham Blank's property is now occupied by Milton and Stella Minich, she is the widow of Harvey Minnich, John Song, Clint Trapp, Lloyd Ohl, and Horace Ohl. (This section covers the northern section of Lanark Road beginning at the intersection of Limeport Pike and covering property on both sides of the road up to Wittman's corner; then proceeding west on Vera Cruz Road to Bergenstock's.)
- No. 47 See notes on Tract No. 46.
- No. 48 See notes on Tract No. 46.
- No. 49 See notes on Tract No. 46.
- No. 50 On May 9, 1741, a warrant was issued to *William Morry* for a tract of 30 acres; this was confirmed to him by Patent February 14, 1741 (note: the dates are as appears in the history, it is not a typing error), and is now embraced in the farm of William Rothrock (owned by Edwin Hartman in 1914). (This section covers the east side of Lanark Road

- from the intersection with Limeport Pike to Vera Cruz Road over to the present 309 By Pass.)
- No. 51 ? (Tract is located along the top of South Mountain between Oakhurst and Colesville, close to the boundary.)
- No. 52 It is known that *Adam Romich* owned this tract. (The tract lies to the south of Tract No. 51.)
- No. 53 On April 1, 1741, a warrant was issued to *Christian Menier* for 137 acres; but he not complying with its terms it became void, and another issued to *William Mory*, March 29, 1743, for the same tract. It was confirmed to him by patent February 14, 1744, and is now owned by the Elias Hellener estate. The tract remained in the Mory family from the date of its patent until quite recently. (1914 history). In 1884 the tract was owned by William Rothrock and the heirs of Solomon Mory (deceased). The first residence on this tract was erected by Menier, on the site of the mansion house on the farm of the late Solomon Mory. (Note: The Hellener family intermarried with the Mory family in the early 1800's . . . explaining their possession of this tract.) (The tract is located to the east of Lanark Road beginning at the Carmelite Covenant and includes Oakhurst.)
- No. 54 About 1735 a warrant was issued to *William Murry (Morry)*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him soon after a tract of 315 acres on the Saucon Creek. He established his residence on the site now occupied by the tenant-house on the farm of Morgan Mory (a direct descendant of his). In 1884 the tract was owned by Morgan Mory, David Mory, Peter Wittman, Jesse Rumfield, and Amos Heller. In 1914 the tract was owned by S. L. Stephens, Jonathan Haas, Lewis Trexler, Thomas D. Scholl, W. S. Stephens, William Trumbore and G. R. Heller. Ohl's History indicates that the tract was owned by Sunnyside, David Morey, Edwin Morey, Lewis and Homer Trexler and Alton Knerr. (This tract starts at the intersection of Lanark Road and the Limeport Pike going south across the Saucon Creek. It includes the Brandis Home, Knerr's Store, "Mory Winds", Schlener's house and goes east to include the stone farmhouse known as Sunnyside, and Leroy Stahler's property up to the Oakhurst Development.)
- No. 55 On January 21, 1740, a warrant was issued to *William Morey*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him February 14, 1744, a tract of 50 acres, owned in 1884 by Peter Wittman. In 1914 this tract was owned by Lewis Trexler. (This tract is a narrow strip paralleling Lanark Road from Hopewell Road across 309.)
- No. 56 On March 16, 1754, a warrant was issued to *Balthauser Beil*, in pursuance of which there was confirmed to him by patent, May 25, 1765, a tract of 52 acres, now owned by Hiram Yeager and Henry Yeager (1914). In 1886 this tract was owned by Charles T. Yeager. (The tract is located on the southern side of the Creek along Camp Meeting Road.)
- No. 57 This tract was owned by *Henry Bachman*. (The tract lies to the North of Center Valley between Lanark Road and Camp Meeting Road.)
- No. 58 On June 26, 1738, a warrant was issued to *Benedict Caman (Gehman)* for 100 acres of land; but he not complying with its terms it became void, when another was issued to *Balthauser Beil* for one-half of it, and one to *Samuel Newcomer* for the balance and an adjoining tract of 25 acres. These were patented to them March 22, 1743. Beil's tract is owned, in 1884, by William P. Weidner and the heirs of Daniel Buchecker (deceased). In 1914 it was owned by the W. P. Weidner estate and Jacob Buchecker. Newcomer's tract was owned in 1884 by Amos Mory, Francis Bernd, and Monroe D. Weierbach. In 1914 the tract was owned by Mrs. Orlando Clauser, James Bahl, Frank Hartman and others. Ohl's history further expounds that Amos Mory's property was now owned by Gen. Buckley; Francis Bernd's was now Mr. Lehr and Monroe Weirbach's was now Leanna Hartman Ohls and Mr. Carroll. (The tract includes the section on Lanark Road starting with the Schnellman Development and continuing on Lanark Road to just short of the junction with Route #309.)

- No. 59 The tract was owned by *Henry Bachman*. (This tract covers the hill above Center Valley and includes the area where the present Jehovah's Witness church is located.)
- No. 60 On September 13, 1738, a warrant was issued to *Richard Thomas* for 300 acres of land; but he not complying with its terms it became void, and on January 2, 1741, another warrant was issued to *John Blackledge, alis Blockley*, for the same tract, and an adjoining one, — the two, upon being surveyed, amounting to 360 acres. These were patented to Blackledge February 22, 1748. The first residence on the tract stood on the site of the masionhouse on the farm of the late Andrew Wint. The tract was owned in 1884 by Charles T. Yeager, Ambrose W. Reinhard, Abner Mory, Abraham Yoder, Charles Koons, Samuel Kauffman, Edwin Erney, Mrs. Blank, Robert Ohl, and J. Trenkler. The two latter and the Centre Valley schoolhouse are on the smaller tract. In 1914 the owners were the Thomas Laubach estate, Mrs. A. W. Reinhard, W. E. Steinmetz, Abraham Yoder, John Laubach, W. H. Wittmer, Amandas Lambert, Jonas Xander, Ammon Kratzer and Robert Ohl. Ohl's history adds further input on the first dwelling: the farm of Andrew Wint, long the property of Adam Engler, later Milt Kleppinger (deceased). Further, he stated that Abner Mory's property was now owned by Danny Hartman; Abraham Yoder's was now that of Ed. Moyer; Charles Koons was now Amos Bader's, Samuel Kauffman's was now Binder (a real estate man), being known for a long time as the William Witmer farm. Mrs. Addie Blank's property was now Jimmy Stahler's; Robert Ohl's was now William H. and Jennie Ohl; and Daniel Trenkler's was now Victor Kratzer (the two latter and the Olde Stone Center Valley Schoolhouse are on the smaller tract, more buildings since added. (The tract covers the northern half of Center Valley and the School area; also, the upper part of Camp Meeting Road.)
- No. 61 This tract was owned by *Peter Rhinehardt*. (The tract includes the woodland at the top of the Lehigh Mountain close to the boundary.)
- No. 62 This tract was owned by the *Lutheran Congregation of Upper Saucon*. (This tract would lie somewhere along Colesville Road towards Saucon Valley Road West between Friedensville and Oakhurst.)
- No. 63 *William Schaffer* owned this tract. (This tract lies east of 309 between Saucon Valley Road and Colesville Road.)
- No. 64 *William Mory* owned this tract of land. (This tract also lies between Colesville Road and Saucon Valley Road East but closer to Saucon Valley Road in the area of Lake Thomas.)
- No. 65 On October 13, 1746, and at various times thereafter, warrants were issued to *Peter Messemer* and *Jacob Lodwig* for several adjoining tracts, amounting to 222 acres, their interest in all of which they conveyed to *Andrew Wint*, to whom it was confirmed by patent June 2, 1763. The lands were owned by Isaac Hartman and Henry B. Person in 1884; by L. W. Weaver and Jacob Hartman in 1914. Ohl's history indicates that Person's property was later owned by Ida Weaver, his granddaughter (now deceased). The Hartman tract was owned by Al Rinn and Katie Hartman Rinn and the New Jersey Zinc Company. (The Ida Weaver property mentioned is no longer standing and is off Saucon Valley Road East between Stahler's and Stonestrow Road; the Hartman property extends from Stonestrow Road east along Colesville Road down to Saucon Valley Road and includes the area covered by the large settling pond.)
- No. 66 This tract was owned by *Balthauser Beil*. (The tract lies along Saucon Valley Road East around the intersection with Stonestrow Road and includes the big bend in the creek.)
- No. 67 On October 31, 1735, a warrant was issued to *Samuel Newcomer*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, March 28, 1738, a tract of 200 acres. He established his residence on the site now occupied by the Old Yeager homestead, on the farm of Charles T. Yeager. The tract was owned in 1884 by Charles T. Yeager, Herman Yeager, and John Reichard. In 1914 it was owned by Hiram Yeager, Oscar Weaver, L. W. Weaver, and others. Ohl's history points out that this tract was the location of the "Big Spring", a camp-

site of the Indians for many generations, as evidenced by the thousands of relics gathered around and near the spring. (The tract includes most of Valley Road North to the intersection with Saucon Valley Road East and a short distance on the other side of the Saucon Valley Road.)

- No. 68 On October 19, 1741, a warrant was issued to *Samuel Newcomer*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, March 22, 174, a tract of 49 acres, owned in 1884 by Charles T. Yeager and Abraham Diehl. It was owned in 1914 by the Charles T. Yeager and Abraham Diehl estates. Ohl's history indicates that further possession of this property was through Walter Hottenstine. (The tract includes the southern portion of Valley Road close to the intersection with 309.)
- No. 69 On January 4, 1754, a warrant was issued to *John Newcomer*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, June 5, 1755, a tract of 126-½ acres owned in 1884 by Joseph Kratzer, Charles T. Yeager, and Herman Yeager. It was owned in 1914 by Henry Hook, Mrs. William Erdman, and others. (This tract is now incorporated into New Jersey Zinc Property and includes Camp Meeting Road.)
- No. 70 *Balthausen Beil* owned this tract. (This property is along the top of the mountain and is between Stonestrow Road and Colesville; along Colesville Road.)
- No. 71 Refer to notes on Tract No. 65. (The tract lies between the mountain and Colesville Road in the same area as Tract No. 70.)
- No. 72 Refer to notes on Tract No. 65. (The tract is in the same area as No. 70 and No. 71 but between Colesville Road and Saucon Valley Road East.)
- No. 73 Refer to notes on Tract No. 65. (This tract is on Saucon Valley Road East between Stonestrow Road and Friedensville.)
- No. 74 About 1745, *Balthausen Beil* first occupied a tract of about 32 acres, the property of Samuel Smith in 1884 and the property of Henry Hartman in 1914. Ohl's history indicates that Smith was a plowmaker and the grandfather of Mrs. Alton Knerr, she was a Hartman prior to her marriage. (This tract begins at the intersection of Camp Meeting Road and Saucon Valley Road East and extends along Saucon Valley Road to the intersection at Friedensville.)
- No. 75 *Peter Messemer* was the owner of this tract. (This tract is along the base of the mountain in the Colesville Road section near the NJZ settling tank.)
- No. 76 *Henry Weaver* had this tract of land. (It occupied the same area as Tract No. 75.)
- No. 77 Again, *Henry Weaver* was the owner of this property. (This is along Colesville Road in the area of Hartman's Schoolhouse.)
- No. 78 This tract was owned by *Henry Weaver*. (This tract lies to the North of Tract No. 77 in the area to the North of Hartman's Schoolhouse.)
- No. 79 *Francis Hartman* was the owner of this tract which was also north of the Hartman Schoolhouse.
- No. 80 On December 21, 1749, and at various times afterwards, warrants were issued to *Anthony Boehm*, in pursuance of which there were patented to him, November 13, 1762, three tracts amounting to 126-½ acres, now owned (1884) by the heirs of Solomon Hartman (deceased) and David Hartman. The tract was owned in 1914 by Frank Hartman, Solomon Hartman, and the William H. Mohr estate. (This tract runs from Saucon Valley Road East to Colesville Road and includes the area before the intersection of both of these roads with the Old Bethlehem Pike. It is now owned by the NJZ Company.)
- No. 81 *Henry Geissinger* was the owner of the tract which extends close to the corner of the boundaries of Upper Saucon, Lower Saucon, and Salisbury Townships.
- No. 82 Refer to Notes on Tract No. 80. (The tract covers the area along the mountain east of Hartman's School.)
- No. 83 Refer to the Note on Tract No. 82.
- No. 84 Refer to the Note on Tract No. 82.

- No. 85 On February 20, 1738, a warrant was issued to *Michael Weaver*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, November 11, 1741, a tract of 125- $\frac{1}{4}$  acres, owned in 1884 by the heirs of Solomon Hartman (deceased). In 1914 the tract was owned by Solomon Hartman, Daniel Hartman, and Mrs. Marsteller. (This tract lies parallel to tract No. 80 and is closer to the Friedensville Church area along the Old Bethlehem Pike . . . it is now owned by the NJZ Company.)
- No. 86 On November 7, 1739, a warrant was issued to *Henry Weber*, in pursuance of which there was confirmed to him by patent, September 11, 1759, a tract of 50- $\frac{1}{2}$  acres, owned in 1884 by Charles Reichard and Nathan Weaver. The tract was owned, in 1914, by the Samuel Adams estate and Mrs. James Marsteller. (This tract lies in the area of Stonestrow Road between Saucon Valley Road East and Colesville Road.) (LeRoy Stahler currently farms this property.)
- No. 87 Refer to all notes on Tract No. 86.
- No. 88 Refer to all notes on Tract No. 86.
- No. 89 On September 27, 1737, and at various times thereafter, warrants were issued to *Valentine Young*, in pursuance of which there were patented to him three tracts, amounting to 218- $\frac{3}{4}$  acres, owned in 1884 by Jacob Young, Patrick McCann, O. W. Markle, and the estate of Moses Gangaware (deceased), Charles Gangaware (deceased), and George Henn (deceased). In 1914 the tract was owned by C. A. Buck, Jacob Levdoch, John Huber, Jeremiah Gangaware, L. J. Gangaware, and the George Henn estate. (This tract is along the Old Bethlehem Pike from Friedensville towards 378 beginning at the Golf Course.)
- No. 90 On January 4, 1737, a warrant was issued to *John Rothrock*, in pursuance of which there was surveyed to him a tract of 101 acres. This soon came into the possession of *Henry Weber*, who established his home on the farm of Patrick McCann (1884); C. A. Buck in 1914. The tract was owned, in 1884, by Patrick McCann, A. W. Reinhard, and Nathan Weaver; in 1914 it was owned by C. A. Buck, Mrs. A. W. Reinhard and Mrs. James Marsteller. (The tract covers Camp Meeting Road from the intersection with Saucon Valley Road East and continues eastward including the current NJZ mine.)
- No. 91 *Ludwig Bush* first occupied a tract of 34 acres owned in 1884 by Jacob Young and Peter Young; in 1914 by Tilghman Young. (This tract includes the area along #378 between Center Valley and Friedensville.)
- No. 92 Refer to notes on Tract No. 60. (This tract includes the area mentioned on Tract No. 91.)
- No. 93 About 1744 a warrant was issued to *Andrew Wint* for a tract of 98 acres which was confirmed to him by patent March 25, 1745. It is now the site of the village of Centre Valley.
- No. 94 On January 30, 1732, a warrant was issued to *Casper Wistar* for several tracts of land, one of 300 acres of which was located in the township. On May 24, 1737, Wistar conveyed his title to this tract to *George Zewitz*, to whom or to Wistar it was confirmed by patent about this time. The tract was owned in 1884 by the heirs of Benjamin Landis (deceased), Samuel Hartranft, the heirs of Enos Erdman (deceased), Michael Landis, William Y. Landis, Jacob Basler, Jacob Geissinger, Samuel Geissinger, David Geissinger, John Clymer, and Jacob Kilpatrick. In 1814 the tract was owned by Henry Landis, the Samuel Hartranft estate, the Michael Landis estate, the W. G. Landis estate, the Rev. Jacob S. Moyer estate, Rev. M. O. Rath, Charles Beck, H. G. Hartman, David Bassler, J. J. Geissinger, Annie Clymer and W. H. Fogel. Ohl's history adds the following comments: Enos Erdman's property was now Van Sciver's . . . this was the Centre Valley farm; William Landis' was now Mrs. Charles Beck; Jacob Geissinger's was the mill property; David Geissinger's was now the M. B. in Christ Home Farm; Samuel Geissinger's was also included in the Home Farm; John Clymer, and Jake Kilpatrick. (This tract includes Center Valley towards Coopersburg.)
- No. 95 About 1735 a warrant was issued to *George Bachman*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him, June 4, 1737, a tract of 334- $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. He established his residence near the

site of the present Eagle Hotel in Coopersburg. (in 1914 it is referred to as the Baron House.) The tract was owned, in 1884, by the heirs of John Slifer (deceased), the heirs of Benjamin Landis (deceased), the heirs of Joseph Stopp (deceased), Jacob Yoder, Daniel Egner, Charles H. Blank, John Brunner, and Thomas Trumbore. It is further occupied by the grounds belonging to the new United Mennonite meeting-house and a large part of the borough of Coopersburg. In 1914 the tract was owned by I. O. Solliday, Henry Landis, Maragret Stopp, A. M. Landis, the Jacob Yoder estate, J. M. Ritter, F. C. Blank, and George D. Young. Ohl points out that the Charles H. Blank property is now owned by Schenk; John Brunner is now the George Young estate and Thomas Trumbore's is now Magy. (The tract includes the north end of Coopersburg, Main and State Streets.)

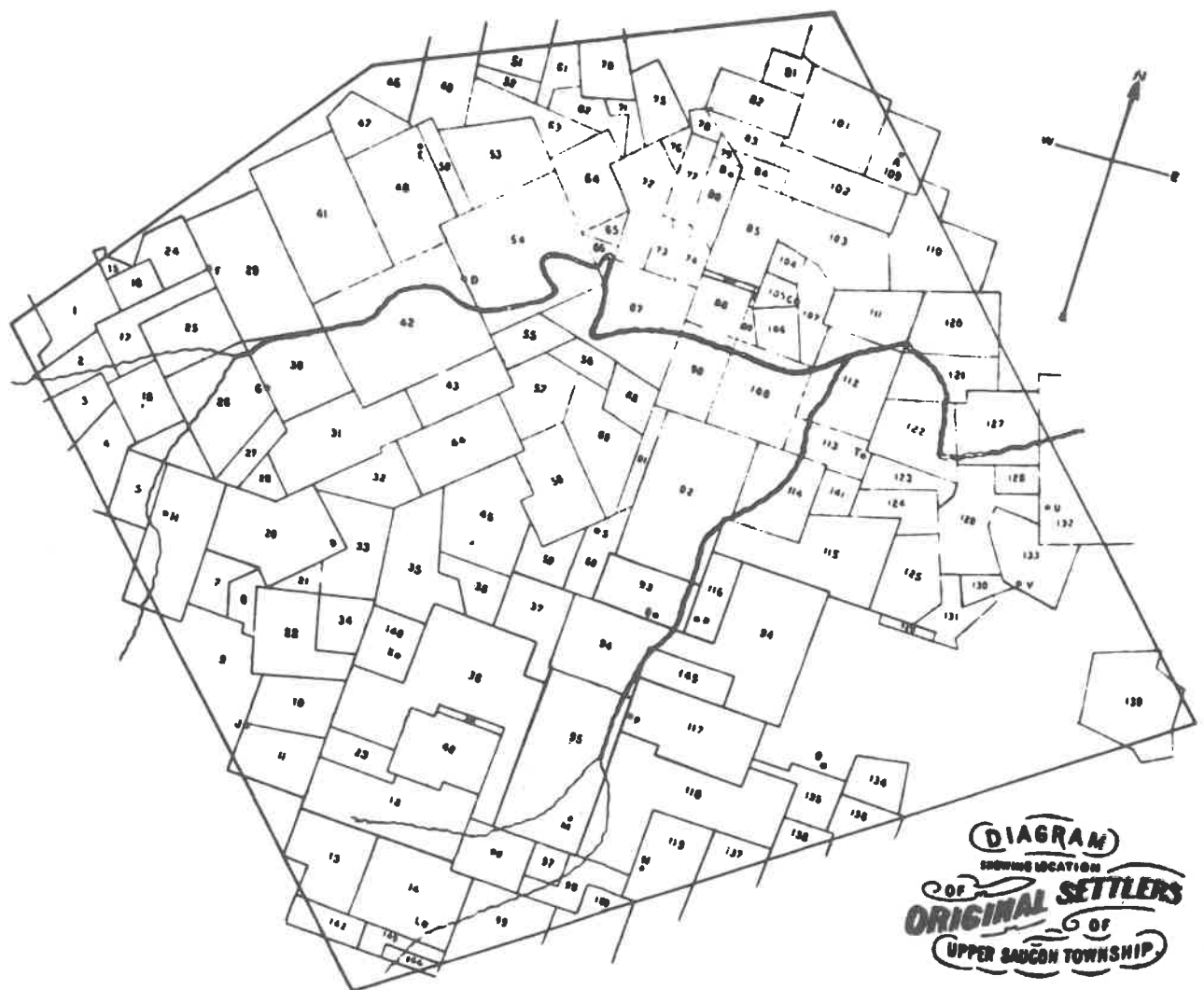
- No. 96 *John Adam Stout* first occupied a tract of 85 acres, owned in 1884 by John Eichelberger, L. M. Engelman, Enos Reichenbach, and John Arnold. In 1914 the owners were S. L. Stephens, Peter Dietz, John Roth, H. G. Koch, and Lewis Roebuck. (The tract covers Locust Valley Road.)
- No. 97 *George Bachman* drew the warrant for a tract of 38 acres; owned, in 1884, by Milton Cooper, Charles Shaffer, and Aaron N. Laros; owned, in 1914, by T. S. Cooper, Charles Shaffer, and John L. Deily. (The tract is in Coopersburg and covers that section along main street that is in Upper Saucon Township.)
- No. 98 *Cornelius Crump* first occupied a tract of 77 acres owned, in 1884, by Milton Cooper and George Fabian; in 1914 by T. S. Cooper and Morris Reichenbach. (This tract covers the same area as described in Tract No. 97.)
- No. 99 *George Bechtel* was the owner of this tract of land. (This is the area of Route #309 where it goes out of the Township into Bucks County at the Top of the Hill in the area of the convalescent home.)
- No. 100 *Jacob Weaver* owned this tract. (This tract covers the same area as Tract No. 99 but lies closer to Main Street in Coopersburg; it is between Main St. and Route #309 to the top of the hill where the County boundary line is between Lehigh and Bucks.)
- No. 101 *Andrew Geissinger* owned this particular tract of land. (It covers the area from Colesville to Black River Road.)
- No. 102 *Matheis Otto* first occupied a tract of about 125 acres which forms the site of that part of the village of Friedensville lying north of the schoolhouse.
- No. 103 On January 24, 1744, and at various times thereafter, warrants were issued to *Philip Trapp* for several tracts of land, amounting to 210 acres. These were confirmed to him by patent, December 14, 1762. Two of these tracts form the site of the village of Friedensville from the hotel to the schoolhouse, the other is on the Lehigh mountain and remains woodland.
- No. 104 (Refer to all notes on Tract No. 103.)
- No. 105 About 1745, Erasmus Boschius first occupied a tract of 20 acres, now the site of that part of the village of Friedensville, lying south of the hotel.
- No. 106 Refer to the note on Tract No. 89. (This tract is in the Friedensville area.)
- No. 107 *Christian Fox* owned this tract of land. (This tract is to the east of Friedensville.)
- No. 108 Refer to note on Tract No. 89. (This tract lies to the south of Friedensville.)
- No. 109 *Bastian Nave* owned this particular tract of land. (The tract includes Colesville.)
- No. 110 *Melchior Baer* was the owner of this tract of land. (This tract includes the area of Saucon Valley Road East; the section to the east of Rt. #378.)
- No. 111 On July 28, 1738, a warrant was issued to *John Apple*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him thereafter a tract of 300 acres, now owned, in 1884, by the heirs of Nathan Grim (Deceased); in 1914 the property was owned by Jacob Grim and George Rabich. (This tract is now included in the Saucon Valley Country Club and includes the section where Spring Valley Road comes into the Country Club.)
- No. 112 Refer to all notes on Tract No. 111.
- No. 113 On May 14, 1746, a warrant was issued to *Henry Cressman* for a tract of 69-1/4 acres,

- owned, in 1884, by Edwin Gangaware. This tract was owned, in 1914, by Michael McGovern. (The tract covers the Spring Valley Road section in the area of Washington School.)
- No. 114 On June 8, 1739, a warrant was issued to *George Strahan* for 135 acres, which seems to have been confirmed by patent to *Peter Hillegass*, some time thereafter. The tract was owned, in 1884, by Peter M. Landis, Reuben Mohr, and Jacob Mann. In 1914 the owners of the tract were the Peter M. Landis estate, George Stroup, William H. Dorney and Titus Mohr. Ohl indicates that the Mohr property was later owned by Harvey Keck and Titus Strauss and that this tract included the Landis Mill property. (The tract includes Landis Mill Road and the Washington School area.)
- No. 115 On February 14, 1742, a warrant was issued to *Christian Rinker*, in pursuance of which there was surveyed to him soon after a tract of 200 acres, owned in 1884 by Sylvanus Fry, Benjamin Eisenhard, Addison Koch, and Abraham Yoder. This tract is owned, in 1914, by Sylvanus Fry, Abraham Yoder, Charles Xander, and Milton Kleppinger. (This tract is in the area of the Allentown College of St. Francis DeSalle.)
- No. 116 *Adam Romich* owned this tract of land. (The tract covers the area of Center Valley Station.)
- No. 117 About 1738 a warrant was issued to *John Yoder*, in pursuance of which there was patented to him soon after a tract of 161-½ acres, owned by Jacob Yoder, Charles Gehman, Henry B. Slifer, the heirs of David Slifer (deceased), and the heirs of Charles Amey (deceased) in 1884. It was owned, in 1914, by the Jacob Yoder estate, the John Yoder estate, C. D. Ott, Mrs. H. G. Yoder, and the Henry Brinker estate. It is farther occupied by the grounds belonging to the old Mennonite meeting-house. (This tract covers the area now occupied by Lane's Department Store, Living Memorial and that section of Coopersburg along Fairmount Street.)
- No. 118 Refer to the notes on Tract No. 38. (The tract includes the area north of the Coopersburg Station and lies between Yoder's School and the main section of Coopersburg.)
- No. 119 Coopersburg Station and the lands of Peter Graybill (in 1884); the lands of Dr. A. M. Gary (in 1914) occupy a part of a tract of 175 acres originally owned by *John Yoder*; about half of the tract falls into Bucks County.
- No. 120 In 1740 *Tobias Bahl* first occupied a tract of 300 acres, owned in 1884 by Philip Bahl, Jesse Jacoby, Gernet & Brother, Thomas Iron Company, and the heirs of William Weirbach. It was owned, in 1914, by John Kauffman, the John Bahl estate, Thomas Hackman, Thomas Iron Company, John Beidelman and others. Ohl's history further reveals that much iron ore was taken out of the mine known as the Bahl mine; the greater part of the tract is occupied by the Weyhill Farms in Bingen. (This tract is along Saucon Valley Road East in the area of the Weyhill course of the Saucon Valley Golf Course.)
- No. 121 Refer to the notes on Tract No. 120. (This tract covers the Saucon Valley Country Club and Spring Valley.)
- No. 122 *John Rothrock* first occupied a tract of 130 acres, owned in 1884 by the heirs of Phaon Albright (deceased), Jesse Jacoby, and John Adams; a part of it was lately owned by Jonathan Koch. In 1914 the owners were the Griffith Albright estate, Amandas Hafler, Mrs. John Bitz, and the Samuel Adams estate. (This tract is comparable in location to Tract No. 121 ..... the Saucon Valley Country Club.)
- No. 123 *Peter Bower* was the owner of this tract of land. (This tract includes the area along Weyhill Drive.)
- No. 124 (This includes the same area as Tract No. 123.)
- No. 125 On December 9, 1748, a warrant issued to *Jacob Zewitz* for a tract of 100 acres, was owned in 1884 by Philip Gangaware, H. Eisenhard, and Adam Dimmig. It was owned in 1914 by Elias Sassemann, Wallace Eisenhard, and James Rau. (This tract is east from Spring Valley between Station Avenue in Center Valley and Weyhill Drive.)

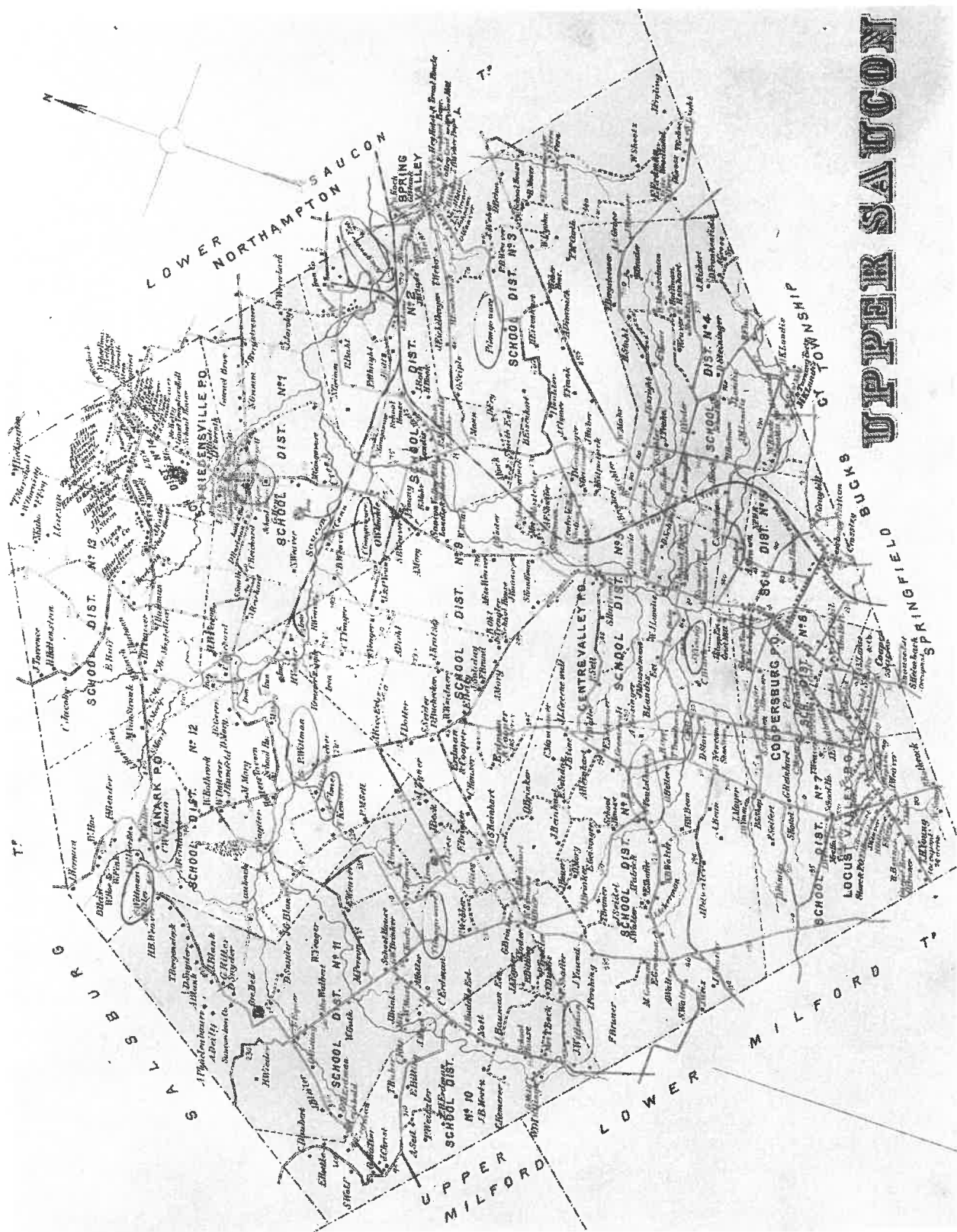


- No. 126 *Jacob Landis* was the owner of this tract of land. (It occupies the area between Station Avenue in Center Valley and Taylor Drive.)
- No. 127 *Jacob Gongwer* first occupied a tract of 150 acres, owned in 1884 by Jacob Gangaware and the Thomas Iron Company. In 1914 the owners were T. H. Diefenderfer, Esq., and Amandas Hafler. (The tract is incorporated into the Weyhill Course of the Saucon Valley Country Club.)
- No. 128 Refer to notes on Tract No. 127.
- No. 129 *John Philip Flexer* first occupied a tract, of unknown extent, of which the lands of Hiram S. Eisenhard (in 1884) were known to be a part. In 1914 the owner of this tract was Mrs. E. G. Thomas. (The tract covers that area of Spring Valley road west of the village of Spring Valley.)
- No. 130 *Adam Kurtz* was the original owner of a tract of 158-½ acres of land, of which the lands of Thomas B. and Joel P. Weber (in 1884 and 1914) were a part. (This tract is on Franklin Lane just outside of Spring Valley.)
- No. 131 *Jacob Weaver* was the owner of this tract of land. (It lies along Taylor Drive in the area of Hays Street.)
- No. 132 *Henry Rinker* was the owner of the original tract. (The tract lies in the village of Spring Valley.)
- No. 133 Refer to the notes on Tract No. 130. (This tract is in the area of the Franklin School.)
- No. 134 *Daniel Kiever* was the owner of this particular tract which is located on Passer Road beyond Yoder's School.
- No. 135 On February 22, 1743, a warrant was issued to *John Miller* for a tract of 71 acres, but for some reason the tract was patented to *John Yoder*, December 22, 1764. It was owned in 1884 by Henry Hoffman, Jacob Landis, and Milton Landis. In 1914 it was owned by Edwin Fehnel and others. Ohl's history further states that "one hundred and 3 years before I was born, this tract was the place where Milt Landis's Handle Factory used to be, later owned by Al Mohr". (This section includes the area around Yoder's School.)
- No. 136 *Peter Mosteller* was the owner of this land. (The tract covers the area between Jacoby Road and the Tumblebrook Golf Course.)
- No. 137 *Christian Fry* first occupied a tract of 103 acres, the greater part of which was owned by Milton Landis in 1884. In 1914 the owners were Alfred H. Mohr, Charles Fisher, and A. F. Landis, a part of the tract falls into Bucks County. (The location is the same as Tract No. 136's description.)
- No. 138 *Christian Smith* was the owner of the tract. (The location is the same area as Tract No. 136.)
- No. 139 *Adam Romich* was the owner of this particular tract. (The tract covers Passer Road and the Flint Hill Road sections.)
- No. 140 On January 9, 1737, a warrant was issued to *Conrad Walb*, in pursuance of which there was surveyed to him a tract of 76-¾ acres. This descended to his children, two of whom sold their interest in it to *Philip Geissinger*, who, with Jacob Walb, Andrew Walb, and Barbara Walb, applied for a patent for the same, which was granted April 24, 1758. The original homestead on this tract was erected by Conrad Walb, on the site now occupied by the tenant-house on the farm of Ephraim Geissinger. About ten acres of this tract are occupied by the Blue Church, its grounds and the adjoining cemeteries. The balance of the tract has remained in the Geissinger family ever since, and is now owned by Llewellyn E. Walter (1914), a lineal descendant of Philip Geissinger. Ohl's history indicated that the Walter property was owned by Andrew Madle. (This tract covers the Blue Church and surrounding area.)
- No. 141 John Apple was the owner of this tract. (This tract is in the Saucon Valley Golf Course, in the section where the Maintenance Barns are located.)
- No. 142 The owner of this particular tract was *Leonard Boydelman*. (The tract extends along the

- corner line of Old Route #309 and the intersection with the Bucks County Line.)
- No. 143 *Jacob Bachman* owned this tract. (Again, this tract is in a similar position to Tract No. 142; in the area where Locust Valley Road cuts off of Main Street.)
- No. 144 The owner of this tract was *Peter Cortz*. (The tract is the same section as explained in Tract No. 143.)







## CHURCHES OF UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP

by Cathy Link

### SAUCON MENNONITE CHURCH

The first "old meeting house" at Saucon was built about 1735. It had a swinging partition in the center, thus providing one room for the church and one room for the church school. In 1749 the following trustees and overseers were appointed to build another church: George Bachman, Philip Geissinger, John Rieser, Samuel Newcomer, and Samuel Bechtel. It was completed the same year at a cost of 67 Pounds (\$325.62).

During the American Revolution the Saucon people were reluctant to bear arms; and, in 1778 most of the adult male members of the group were imprisoned and later ordered banished from the colony within thirty days. All their property was confiscated and sold by the Sheriff for 40,000 Pounds (194,400); even beds, stoves, and food were taken from their families.

Those ordered banished were:

George Bachman  
Jacob Yoder  
Casper Yoder  
Abraham Yoder  
Heinrich Sell  
Heinrich Geissinger

Johannes Geissinger  
Abraham Geissinger  
Philip Geissinger  
Christian Jung (Young)  
Johannes Newcomer

On the 9th of September, 1778, Eva Yoder and Ester Bachman petitioned the court in Easton for the release of their husbands . . . claiming that some of the women were pregnant and with winter coming on there would be undue hardships.

In 1782 the sum of 34 Pounds (\$165.21) was collected for the building of a schoolhouse at the Church. The Schoolhouse, which stood at the northwest corner of the cemetery, was abandoned in 1883 when the Penn Schoolhouse was erected by the Township. Some of the schoolteachers were: Jacob Sterner, William Snyder, Jonathon Price, and Henry Benner; George Patrick of Center Valley, was the last teacher in the school. Salaries varied from \$16/month to \$20/month.

Tradition states that a dozen, or more, Indians worshipped in the Saucon Church and that they placed their bows and arrows on the ground outside the church door until the service was ended. There are some Indians buried in the cemetery; the features of the ground at the northeast corner show the methods used by the Indians in making their graves.

It appears that an Indian camp was located along the creek at this same corner; many arrowheads have been dug up at this point and the mussel shells found along the fence line, near the creek, is further evidence of their presence.

In 1785 shutters for the Saucon Church were made, and donated, by: John Bachman, Casper Young, Jacob Yoder, John Geissinger, Samuel Meyers, and Abraham Meyers. In 1793 a stone wall was built around the cemetery (cost — 40 Pounds) and in 1798 one gable end of the Church was rebuilt and a new roof added.

The present building was erected in 1841, for which purpose \$1,375.12 was collected by subscription. On the 19th of February, 1842, a church reckoning was held at which all debts were paid and a balance of \$78.90 remained in the Treasury. The trustees, in 1844, were Abraham Yoder and Joseph Yoder.

There was a division in the Mennonite Churches in 1847 . . . . . yet, the two groups continued to worship in the church on alternate Sundays. With the passing of the Rev. Samuel Moyer (in 1877) the



old Mennonite Congregation discontinued regular services and had an occasional service on a Sunday afternoon. Peter Young was the last of the "Olde Saucon Mennonites".

A special collection, taken in 1850, was made for the building of a wood house and shed for the minister's carriage.

One receipt (dated the 28th of March, 1846) reads as follows: "Received from Abraham Yoder for stove in school in meeting house — \$6.55 in cash and \$5.19- $\frac{3}{4}$  in the form of an old iron." Another receipt: "Received of A. Yoder, Trustee, the sum of \$1.00 for cutting 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  cords of wood." Signed Jesse Frick.

In 1869 shingles and nails for a new roof were purchased at a cost of \$23.32. On the 8th of January, 1848, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of stove piper were purchased for \$1.43. On the 5th of October, 1852, John Yoder purchased, for the Church, from the Simon Rau store in Bethlehem: 3 gallons of linseed oil at \$.85/gallon and one pound of litharge for \$0.10. (The receipt has the actual signature of Simon Rau, who was the originator of what is now the oldest drug store in the United States. The store is still located on South Main Street in Bethlehem.) On October 22nd, 1852, 50 Pounds of white lead was purchased from Barbour and Young . . . . . for \$3.75.

For many years the present building was heated with two wood stoves. The janitor, William Landis, served for 40 years; and, later his wife, Susanna, served for 7 years. Charles Beck also served for a period of 7 years; he was paid \$7.00/year.

Rev. John Oberholtzer, who led in the division of the Mennonite Churches and preached at Saucon occasionally, died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Landis. Mr. Landis, who was both janitor and chorister, had a woodworking plant at the rear of his home which operated by water power. The shop contained a lathe, on which he turned out rungs for chairs, bed posts, and table legs; he also had a wood bending plant. The building was later used by Charles Beck for carpet weaving.

The first minister to preach in the English language at Saucon was Rev. Allen M. Fretz; he preached there every 12 weeks. Soon after Deacon William Scheiffer died (1906), it was thought best to close the church because of the lack of membership . . . . . there were only a dozen. A reorganization occurred on October 14, 1911 and the following trustees were elected: Thomas A. Nolf, William G. Moyer, and Elmer Beck . . . . . they voted against closing the church. Rev. A. B. Shelly was in charge of the meeting.

Before the turn of the century the Sunday School had been discontinued for a short time; but, under the leadership of Deacon Frank Kramer (who served the school for more than 50 years) it was reorganized.

In 1915 the cemetery contained, among others, the following graves:

54 Landis	51 Geissinger	28 Moyer
25 Yoder	24 Young	7 Bachman

Aaron Weaver, in 1915, was paid \$7.50 for five days of work in the cemetery. In the same year, a baptismal bowl was purchased for \$4.50. A wire fence was erected along the north and east property lines in 1913. Electric lights were installed in 1919; the materials of which cost \$60.10. An iron fence was placed around the cemetery in 1922 and removed in 1945.

Following, is the most accurate list of ministers who served the Saucon Church:

Rev. Jacob Moyer . . . . .	died in 1790
Rev. Samuel Moyer . . . . .	died in 1832
Rev. Michael Landis . . . . .	died in 1839 (served 35 years)
Rev. William Landis . . . . .	died in 1848 (served 8 years)
Rev. Valentine Young . . . . .	died in 1850 (served 40 years)
Rev. Samuel Moyer . . . . .	died in 1877 (served 20 years)

Rev. Christian Clemmer, Rev. Joseph Schantz and Rev. Abaham Gottschall served at the same time. Rev. A. M. Fritz, Rev. J. S. Moyer and Rev. A. B. Shelly also served at the same time. They were serving in 1884.

Rev. Elwood Shelly . . . . . (served 12½ years, until 1916)  
 Rev. William Gottschall . . . . . (served one year)  
 Rev. Harleigh Rosenberger . . . . . (served one year, student pastor)  
 Rev. George Greger . . . . . (served 4 years)  
 Rev. John Unruh . . . . . (served 4 years)

Ward W. Shelly took over the leadership of the Church on December 1, 1944; he served until 1950.

Rev. Samuel Sprunger . . . . . (served 1950 to 1953)  
 Rev. M. Lawrence Smith . . . . . (served 1953 to 1959)  
 Rev. David Hillegas . . . . . (1959 to present)

#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH (known also as "SAUCON" or "BLUE CHURCH")

The territory of Saucon was settled in 1730. A warrant for three tracts, located near the "Saucong" Creek, was issued on December 12, 1730, to the heirs of Richard Haynes. In 1743, these three tracts (350 acres each) were conveyed to Joseph Samuels.

The warrant for the tract (on which the St. Paul's Church is built) was issued January 9, 1737, to Conrad Walb. Walb's heirs sold the tract to Philip Geissinger, who was granted a patent on April 24, 1758 . . . . . about 10 acres of this tract was occupied by the St. Paul's Church and graveyard. The adjoining cemeteries occupy a part of the 10,000 acre tract willed to Springet and William Penn, grandsons of William Penn. The Penns sold this tract to William Allen who was granted a warrant on March 5, 1730; and, he, in turn, sold a large part of it to Philip Geissinger. On the 18th of May, 1757, Philip Geissinger had the deed for the tract conveyed to the trustees of St. Paul's Church for the specific purpose of establishing a church, school and a burial place. The trustees were: John Apple, Balthaser Beil, and Andreas Erdman.

From a historical sketch (by Rev. John Vogelbach 1852-1857) at the Centennial of the congregation, it seems that baptisms had been entered in 1739 in the old church record and a school was in session in 1740. In 1745 representatives from the district visited Muhlenberg at Providence and asked him to take their congregation and school under his pastoral care. In 1746, Muhlenberg wrote in the Halle Reports that he had already served the Saucon congregation for a year. He described "the congregation" as composed mostly of poor people. When Muhlenberg declared he could no longer serve them, he arranged to send his schoolmasters, Virgera and Loeser, in 1746. Virgera memorized sermons in order to deliver them before his congregation.

When the reliable schoolmaster Virgera was transferred (in the fall of 1748) to Philadelphia, the Saucon congregation was left unprovided. Though Muhlenberg visited Saucon the following May and August, administering communion, it was not until the 22nd of November, 1749, that Muhlenberg was able to introduce the services of a catechist — This was Rudolph Heinrich Schrenk who had come from Lunenberg, Nova Scotia.

There is no reference to the organization of a Reformed congregation prior to 1802, when Rev. John Henry Hoffmeier began the "Church Book of the Evangelical Reformed Congregation in Upper Saucon Township".

The first church, built of logs, was in use in 1742 and was located in the southwest corner of the old cemetery; the second church (or organ church) erected in 1763, stood partly on the site of the present church; the third church of stone was erected in 1833-1834 — at a cost of \$5,173.81.

A list of the Lutheran ministers to serve Blue Church is as follows:

Muhlenberg	1745-1749	Rev. Stecher	?
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Catechist L. H. Schrenk	1749-1753
John Andrean Frederici	1754-1762
John Joseph Roth	1763-1764
Supplies	1764-1769
Jacob VanBuskirk	1769-1793
George F. Ellison	1793-1795
Supplies	1795-1798
Frederick W. Geissenhainer	?
John G. Roeller	?
Paul Frederic Kramer	?
Frederick Plitt	1798-1819
Rev. Heiny (9 years)	?

Benjamin German	1820-1848
(assisted by Rev. Brobst and student Penchant-Reformed)	
William German	1848-1851
Jacob Vogelbach	1852-1857
William Rath and Myron Rath	1857-1888
Dr. E. A. Yehl	1889-1893
William Kistler	1894-1933
D. D. Kistler	1933-1950
D. Latshaw	1950-1967
R. Heckman	1968
James Koones	1968 to present

The oldest church record, started by Catechist Schrenk, is a 252 page volume. It is 8" by 12" x 1-1/8" thick, bound in leather. The book bears evidence of hard use but still is in a good state of preservation. On the inside front cover is the following inscription, in German:

"Church Record  
 of  
 The Evangelical Lutheran Congregation  
 in Saccum (Saucon)  
 Wherein are given in an orderly manner the names of  
 1- Persons baptized  
 2- Persons confirmed  
 3- Persons married  
 4- Persons deceased and buried  
 in the congregation by me,

L. H. Schrenk, the pastor  
from October, 1749\_\_".

The paper used in making up the book was unruled, of pure rag stock. It is a product of the famous Rittenhouse Paper Mills, in Germantown, and has a watermark showing a cloverleaf with the initials "WR" (William Rittenhouse).

The first list of confirmed (dated the 22nd of May, 1750) are: Jacob Gangewehr, Andreas Raup, Catharina Marsteller, Maria Catharine Dörfflinger, and Anna Christina Merckert.

In 1763 Rev. John Joseph Roth baptized Elizabeth Pitts, born the 9th of May, 1738. In the margin beside the official record is written: "Note: — Her father deserted his religion and failed to have his daughter baptized. She was now baptized by me, Jo. Jos. Roth, pastor here, at the desire of her husband, Henry Pitts".

William B. Furry was baptized on the 25th of December, 1890. His date of birth is listed "about March 1889". This note follows; "parents not known; child found in woods and adopted by the sponsors, George and Cecelia (Gangeware) Furry".

One hundred and one pages in the forepart of the book contain baptismal records. In the remainder of the book the sequence for other types of entries was frequently changed to fill in vacant spaces.

Pastor Roth's last baptismal entry is on the 6th of May, 1764; and, exactly one week later he was buried in the Blue Church cemetery.

The *first record book* ends with Rev. Frederick Pitt's hand.

The *second record book* covers the period 1806-1851. It is a 270 page volume, 8 1/4" x 13" x 1" thick. The covers are of heavy cardboard (with brown leather back and corners); the paper is hand-



made rag stock, without watermarks or ruling; the title page is inscribed in German.

The *third record book* was started in 1851 and ended in 1872. It contains 294 pages and is 6 1/8" x 15 1/4" x 1" thick. The covers are mottled cardboard and lack any outside markings.

*Record book number four* has 384 pages. It is 7 7/8" x 12 3/4" by 7/8" thick. It has mottled cardboard covers. There is no outside marking and nowhere in the book is there anything to indicate ownership or contents. What appears to represent the cost of the book, 1.50, is written in pencil at the top of the title page, which is otherwise blank.

The ministers for the Reformed Congregation of St. Paul's Church are:

John Henry Hoffmeier	1802-1806
Jacob William Pechant	1808-1815
Daniel Zeller	1815
Samuel Hess	1828-1868
Amandus F. Ziegler (supply)	1868
John F. Mohr (supply)	-1875
Robert C. Weaver	1874-1882
Jacob Graver Dubbs	1891-1912
Thomas M. Kressley	1913
William H. Cogley	-1928
Rev. Bingaman	

The Reformed Congregational Record, started by Rev. John Hoffmeier in 1802, is a 252 page volume. It is 8 1/4" x 13" x 1" thick. It has heavy cardboard covers with brown leather back and corners and has no outside markings. The paper is pure rag stock, ruled vertically, with a watermark showing initials "W&S" on one side of the sheet; and, on the opposite side of the sheet is an eagle clutching an olive branch in one talon and 2 thunderbolts in the other.

The names of the officers are recorded on the first page as follows:

Elders: Philip Neucommer  
Peter Kiefer

Deacons: Jacob Herzel  
Philip Seller, Jr.

## FRIEDEN'S CHURCH

Frieden's Church was organized in 1793 and was from the beginning a Union (Lutheran and Reformed) Church. The first pastors were John Conrad Yeager of the Lutheran side and John Henry Hoffmeier on the Reformed side. A Church building was erected in 1793 upon a plot of ground donated by William Mory and "for which he gave the deed for a consideration of five shillings". Among those signing the agreement to erect a Church are the names of Philip Bahl, Adam Romig, William Mory, Peter Hartman, Franz Hartman, Conrad Rau, Martin Apple, Peter Weber, Philip Buchecker, Peter Schaeffer and Andreas Heller. While the work was being done, the congregations worshipped in Mory's barn.

The new building was dedicated on the 24th of November, 1793 with the two pastors in charge of the services. The Moravians sent representatives, pastors and musicians, who took an active part in the services. The Rev. Mr. Klingsohr of the Moravian Church dedicated the building "to the service of Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit" and gave it the name of Evangelical Friedens Church. It was judged that between seven and eight hundred persons were present. Services were continued the following day.

The first child baptized in the new Church was Maria Gernet on Christmas Day, 1793, with Pastor Yeager officiating. He administered the Lord's Supper on May 11, 1794 to forty-two members of the Lutheran congregation. Pastor Hoffmeier administered the Holy Communion to forty-nine members of the Reformed congregation on the 22nd of June, 1794. The first class of Confirmands was

received on the 26th of April, 1795 by Pastor Hoffmeier. The class numbered thirty-one. Pastor Yeager confirmed his first class of eighteen persons on the 16th of April, 1797.

An organ was purchased in 1808 at a cost of about \$1300. The congregation prospered and in 1817 it became necessary to enlarge the Church. In 1839 only 22 years after the original building had been enlarged, a new Church was built on a slightly different location. The first Church stood between the present building and the sexton's house (in dry seasons the outlines of the foundations may still be seen), the second Church was one hundred years old in 1939.

Since its organization Friedens Church has owned and operated its own cemetery for the benefit of members. The first cemetery was acquired in 1793 and consists of that portion nearest the Church; burials are no longer made in this section. In 1924 the old cemetery was graded and improved. The second cemetery, across the road from the parking lot, was acquired in 1859 at a cost of \$347.82. It consists of one acre and ten perches. In 1890 three more acres were added, this tract having been purchased from Thomas Bennet at a cost of \$350 per acre. Three additional acres were acquired from the New Jersey Zinc Company in 1924 in exchange for mineral rights under certain parts of the Church property. In 1926 one acre was purchased from Howard Ritter at a cost of \$200. There are an unusually large number of soldiers buried at Friedensville . . . the total number representing all wars is 115! (Of this group 20 are listed as participants in the Revolutionary War and 72 are Civil War Veterans).

The Sunday School was organized on the 29th of April, 1855 with 13 teachers and 65 scholars. It met only during the summer months. The first year-round sessions were held in 1862. Five years later it met for the first time in the Church, previous sessions having been held in the school house.

The pastors and their dates of service are as follows:

Lutheran		Reformed	
John C. Yeager	1793-1832	John H. Hoffmeier	1793-1806
Joshua Yeager	1831-1885	Jacob W. Dechant	1808-1815
Abraham R. Horn	1885-1902	Daniel Zöller	1815-1857
Howard A. Kunkle	1903-1907	Alfred J. G. Dubbs	1857-1871
Charles J. Cooper	1907-1924	Robert C. Weaver	1875-1891
Titus V. Druckenmiller	1925-1931	Jacob G. Dubbs	1892-1927
Walter L. Williams	1932-1941	Thomas M. Kressley	1928-1942
Thomas Richter	1942-1943	George Bingham	1943-1950
Nevin Gearhart	1944-1954	Grant E. Harrity	1951-1954
Ronald F. Mease	1954-1957	Ernest M. Hawk	1954-1958
Lee E. Angstadt	1958-1970	Richard Ott	1958-1961
David F. Hill	1971- to present	Don R. Studer	1961-

On the 4th of October, 1963 papers on dissolution of the Union Church were signed and the Lutheran Congregation purchased the present Church building. By November of 1965 plans were completed and approved by the congregation for the construction of a Christian Education Building to be located north of the present Church.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION

At one time there was a meetinghouse of the Methodist Episcopal Congregation located between Friedensville and Colesville. It was built by Dr. Henry S. Clemens.

Rev. Nathan Durell, of Philadelphia, organized it in 1863 and served as the pastor until 1865. Rev. Cummings followed and served from 1865 to 1868; then Rev. Kimble from 1868-1871; Rev. Harrison from 1871-1874; and Rev. Harkins from 1874-1877. The Church building passed into the hands of the "New" Reformed Church and was ministered by Rev. D. G. Wiegner.

In 1885 an association consisting of Lutherans, Reformed, and Mennonites formed the Union Chapel of Center Valley. Those who worshipped there belonged to congregations elsewhere. Pastors from St. Paul's Blue Church did the preaching and the same building was used as a school for some time. It is now a private home.

## CALVARY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

The deed covering the original church property was recorded the 31st of August, 1869. Work on the simple church was completed and by the 7th of June, 1870, the Evangelical Mennonites (as they were then called) held their semi-annual conference in the new structure.

At the same time the church was built, a cemetery was laid out, facing the west. The first funeral in the congregation took place in August 1869, a child of the family named Winch.

The passing of years brought about mergers and revisions in the conference structure. The name changes over the years reflect the various re-alignments. In 1869 they were the Evangelical Mennonites; in 1875, the name was changed to United Mennonites. From 1883 to 1959, they were called the Mennonite Brethren in Christ; and, since that time, they have been the Bible Fellowship Church.

Although the name has changed, most of the ordinances have not. The belief in Baptism is one example. The original church plot is bounded on the west by a branch of the Saucon Creek. The creek forms a pool in a hollow surrounded by large willow trees. The churchmen placed several large stones to be used as stepping stones into the pool and a heavy timber dam raised the water to the proper level for baptism. Changes in the course of the stream, plus the increased pollution of the waters, forced the church to build a baptismal pool. The small pool was located directly behind the church building. With the erection of the new church, the pool has been included in the structure's interior and now stands in a curtained enclosure behind the pulpit.

In 1943, the church interior was redecorated and the plain wall behind the pulpit gained a mural depicting the return of Christ. The painting was done by H. Willard Ortlip, an evangelist-artist.

Ten years later, the church had a need to provide for space for its growing Sunday School. An addition was built which contained large classroom areas, restrooms, a nursery, and a boiler room.

Also added within the past fifty years have been musical instruments. Prior to 1920 there was no piano to aid the congregational singing; Ida Gehman donated the very first piano to the church. Approximately twenty years later the church purchased an electric organ, the installation of which brought about the removal of some vestiges of the old days. Up to the early part of this century, the ladies and the men did not sit together during the worship services. The ladies sat on the right side of the pulpit and the men sat on the left. Rows of benches faced the pulpit but there were also a few rows of benches at right angles to those benches.

German worship services were conducted at Calvary as late as the 1920's. Soon only morning meetings were in German, and finally German disappeared almost completely from the service. The earliest hymnal used was in German and had no notes. There was considerable objection raised to the first hymnals with notes! It was thought that hymns should be sung in the spirit and not by printed notes.

It was also thought that the church was not a place for weddings. The first wedding to be conducted in the church was in 1942 when the Rev. Walter H. Frank united Ralph Yeakel and Evelyn Moyer in marriage in a simple ceremony immediately following the morning worship service. Before this, members were married by the pastor in the parsonage.

From its very beginning, services at the church have been held regularly. In the early days these meetings are reported to have been lively, lengthy affairs, with much singing and old-fashioned shouting during the services. The people who attended these meetings were simple, plain people, who dressed without showiness.

Sunday School Sessions were set up by the men and women who founded the congregation as

early as 1858, eleven years before the building of the church. Early services were held on the threshing floor of a barn and children came barefoot to the classes.

As was the custom in those days, one preacher was assigned to several churches. In 1887-1889 Coopersburg and Bethlehem formed a circuit. Later Emmaus, Springtown, and South Allentown shared preachers for varying lengths of time. In 1956 the first Official Board of Calvary Church was organized and the years on a circuit ended; Carl C. Cassell was called as the full time pastor.

In 1958 they purchased the adjacent property and in 1964 the Board was authorized to engage an architect. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held in 1966 and the new church was dedicated 4 June 1967.

Reverend Donald Reitz is the current pastor. Others serving since Rev. Cassell's time were: Rev. Elwood L. Heiser, Rev. Harold P. Shelly, and Rev. LeRoy S. Heller.

### GRACE MORAVIAN CHURCH

The church was organized and the structure built by the Free Methodists; the corner-stone reads "Free Methodist Church 1883". The congregation was ministered to by Rev. Manshart. When only a few Methodists remained in the congregation, the church was taken over by the Baptists. The Baptists occupied the church until about 1935 and at this time a Sunday School was organized.

In the late 1940's Dr. Rominger, then the minister of Coopersburg Moravian Church, began to hold evening services in the Center Valley Church. In 1954 student pastors of the Moravian Church started a twenty year period of service to the congregation. The church was officially chartered in 1955.

After Dr. Allan retired, from Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, he spent five years assisting the student pastors, ending his service in 1973.

In September 1974 Rev. Barry Lehman became the present minister of Grace Moravian.

The Sunday School started in the 1930's is still active in the church. It is a non-denominational organization and has a membership of over 100 people.

### ST. ANDREW'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

On the 19th of March, 1905 St. John's Union Sunday School was organized in "the little red schoolhouse" on Pike Avenue near the Salisbury Township building. The first president of the Union Sunday School was Frank Hohe. Besides regular Sunday School classes there were classes in German for the primary and adult departments. The German Bible Class was discontinued in 1918.

The trustees were authorized to purchase land at Pike Avenue and West Rock Road in 1928 (this is the land on which the present church stands). The new church was dedicated on the 30th of October, 1929.

On the 25th of September, 1935 the Sunday School applied for a charter to organize as St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Summit Lawn, Pa. and on the 14th of October the charter was granted. The Rev. J.H.K. Miller was the field missionary sent by the Lutheran Board of Home Missions to organize the congregation; and St. Andrew's was taken off of mission status in 1957.

Many pastors have served St. Andrew's. They are as follows:

Rev. Wilson H. Hartzell	1936-1939
Rev. H. E. Schlotzhauer	1939-1942
Rev. William Stebbins	1943-1950
Rev. William Butts	1953-1956
Rev. Edward L. O'Shea	1956-1958
Rev. Gunnar Alksnis	1959-1962

Rev. James H. Fisher	1962-1968
Rev. Paul J. Henry	1969-1972
Rev. John V. Peters	1972- to present

## SAINT JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Through the efforts of Rt. Rev. Monsignor Leo G. Fink, Rector of Sacred Heart Church, Allentown, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered in Limeport for the first time on the 26th of March, 1926. At first the little congregation assembled in the Limeport Hotel, then in the Schwartz Home (which now stands at the foot of the lane leading to the present church) and, finally, a farm house and barn were purchased. On the 21st of November, 1927 Limeport was united with Colesville as a canonical parish with the Rev. John P. N. Fries being named the first resident pastor.

Under the direction of Father Fries the new parish was organized and the old barn was transformed into a beautiful white church.

In 1934 the Rev. John Wiesler came to Limeport to continue the work. Over a period of eighteen years he made many improvements, among them the installation of an organ and the opening of a parish cemetery. He also succeeded in liquidating the debt of the parish.

In 1952 the Rev. Richard Holzhauser succeeded Father Weisler as the pastor of Saint Joseph's. It was in this same year that Colesville, a mission chapel of St. Joseph's until this time, became a canonical parish. Father Holzhauser aided the growing community to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the parish; he improved the access roads and paved a large parking lot. He built the present outdoor pavilion; erected the present parish parochial grade school. The Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus from Hyde Park, Reading, agreed to serve in the school. The old farm house, renovated as a rectory, was given to the Sisters as living quarters; so, Father Holzhauser was forced to plan the building of a new rectory. About the time that the preliminary construction was completed, Father Holzhauser died (the 18th of March, 1968).

On the 10th of May, 1968, the Rev. William Hoffner was appointed as the new rector. His orders were to build a new church, as the existing structure proved to small for the growing congregation, and bowing to the use of time, was becoming structurally unsound for the continued hard use. On the 25th of December, 1970 the congregation gathered for services in the new building.

## ASSUMPTION PARISH

Before the Assumption Parish was established, the Catholics of Colesville walked together into Bethlehem for Sunday Mass at Holy Infancy Church. They transferred to Saint Ursula's in Fountain Hill when it opened in 1919.

After a decade, St. Ursula's pastor (Father Charles McGinley) suggested that the Catholics of Colesville, build their own chapel. In the little church that resulted everything was handmade by the parishioners — the pew, the altar, all but the pot-bellied stove. The priests from St. Ursula's came to say the masses.

The following year the Colesville Church was transferred into the charge of St. Joseph's Parish, Limeport.

The Chapel of St. Joseph's kept its mission status until 1952. Monsignor Fink requested permission for Colesville to have a parish of their own and ten months later the Chancellor of the Philadelphia Archdiocese appointed Father Drobek as the first pastor of the Assumption B.V.M. Colesville, Pa.

Father Drobek planned and erected the major addition to the church and built the new rectory. The parish continued to grow, particularly through families attracted by two major industries in the area, the New Jersey Zinc Company and Bethlehem Steel.

When the present pastor (Father James Hanlon) came to Assumption, he established a modern convent, now occupied by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and a school. These two buildings were dedicated on the 29th of September, 1968.

## CARMEL OF ALLENTOWN

Two Carmelite Sisters, Mother Therese of Jesus and Sister Clement Mary of the Guardian Angel, were canonically commissioned to erect a foundation of a Calced Carmelite Monastery of Papal Enclosure in America.

During a brief stay of the two nuns in Reading, Cardinal Dougherty appointed Right Reverend Monsignor Leo G. Fink, of Allentown, to assist the nuns in finding a place in which to locate. Monsignor Fink chose Lanark Manor.

Directed by Monsignor Fink, Mother Therese purchased the Weibel Estate at Lanark Manor. The new home consisted of five acres of land, a seventeen-room house, a four-car stone garage and an artesian well. Included with the property was the obligation of supplying water to the sixteen families that occupied the valley.

On the 22nd of May, 1931 Mother Therese and Sister Clement Mary arrived at Lanark. On the 26th of May Holy Mass was celebrated for the first time in the new Carmel of Allentown by the Most Reverend Elias Magennis, Prior General of the Carmelites. On the 18th of June Monsignor Fink, representing His Eminence, Cardinal Dougherty, formally opened the new foundation.

Soon the original house of the Weibel estate proved too small for the new community. Mother Therese began to plan the erection of a new Convent.

On the 8th of December, 1934, a group of Carmelite Sisters, armed with picks and shovels, began the excavation for the chapel building. By the 19th of March the masons were able to begin the stone work. On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, in 1935, the Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia, the Most Reverend Gerald P. O'Hara, laid the corner-stone of the new chapel. A crowd of the laity were present, as well as a good representation of the clergy. Among the latter were Right Rev. Monsignor Fink; Very Rev. Lawrence C. Diether, Prior Provincial of the Carmelites of the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary; Fathers Siverius Quigley, Urban Lager and Peter Kramer, all Carmelites; and Father Mathis of Allentown. Father Quigley preached the sermon.

The dedication of the new Carmelite Chapel was on the 17th of July, 1949. The late Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, officiated.

There have been two Daughter-foundations. The first, in 1954, to establish a new Carmel in Wahpeton, North Dakota. In 1956 the second Daughter-foundation located in Asheville, North Carolina.

## LOCUST VALLEY CHAPEL

### THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

The church was organized and the building constructed in 1954. Some of the founders were Frank Wilcox, John Boyer, Merrill Kennedy and Arthur Fogal. At this time it was an independent church.

In 1956 the building was sold to the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

The ministers who have served the church are:

Rev. Howard Bowers  
Rev. Clark Latshaw

1956-1958  
1958-1959

Rev. Don Anderson	1960-1965
Rev. Raymond Cole	1966-1970
Rev. Howard Cashatt	1971-1973
Rev. Edward Wible	1973- to present

## GOD'S MISSIONARY CHURCH

Services were first started in the spring of 1958 in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Allem, near Shelly, with Rev. Fred Watson as pastor. In the year 1961 the property at 92 East Landis Street was purchased and a basement type church was built. Rev. Fred Watson pastored the church until 1963.

Rev. William Tillis became the next pastor and served until 1964.

In 1964 Rev. Robin Hevalow became the pastor and served until 1970. It was during this time that the upper part of the church was built which is now the main sanctuary.

Rev. Harry Plank was the following pastor and was there until June 1975.

Rev. Arthur Thomas is the pastor at the present time. The Motto at the God's Missionary Church of Coopersburg is "You are never a stranger, not even the first time".

## JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

The Jehovah's Witnesses constructed their church in 1960. The first Elder was Charles Marks; the present Elder is Steve Brezan.

## FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Faith United Church of Christ is composed of the former Friedens and St. Paul's (Blue) Reformed congregations. It carries on the history and tradition of these two churches.

Friedens Church was organized in 1793. It was a Union Church, with the land and property being held jointly by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations.

St. Paul's Church was organized by the Tohickon Classis of the Reformed Church in May, 1874. It was immediately placed into a charge along with Friedens and Zion Hill. The Rev. F. J. Mohr was appointed to serve until a pastor could be secured.

The Rev. Robert C. Weaver was called to the charge in 1875 and he served until 1891. It was not until 1943 that the two congregations found themselves in the same charge, composed of Friedens, St. Paul's and St. John's of Coopersburg.

In 1950 the charge dissolved, the St. Paul's being served by supply pastors. Friedens and St. John's were a charge until 1958 when they split and each called their own pastor. Friedens Church signed their dissolution with the Lutheran congregation on the 1st of October, 1963.

On the 19th of April, 1964 the congregation voted to adopt the name Faith United Church of Christ. The following year, on the 7th of March, the ground consecration and ground breaking services were held at the Center Valley location. The following week the St. Paul's congregation voted to merge with Faith Church. These 149 members were formally joined with Faith on the 5th of February, 1967.

The cornerstone was laid on the 13th of June, 1965 and the Church was dedicated on the 20th of March, 1966. Don R. Studer was the first pastor of Faith United Church of Christ; Pastor Barry Galley is the current minister.

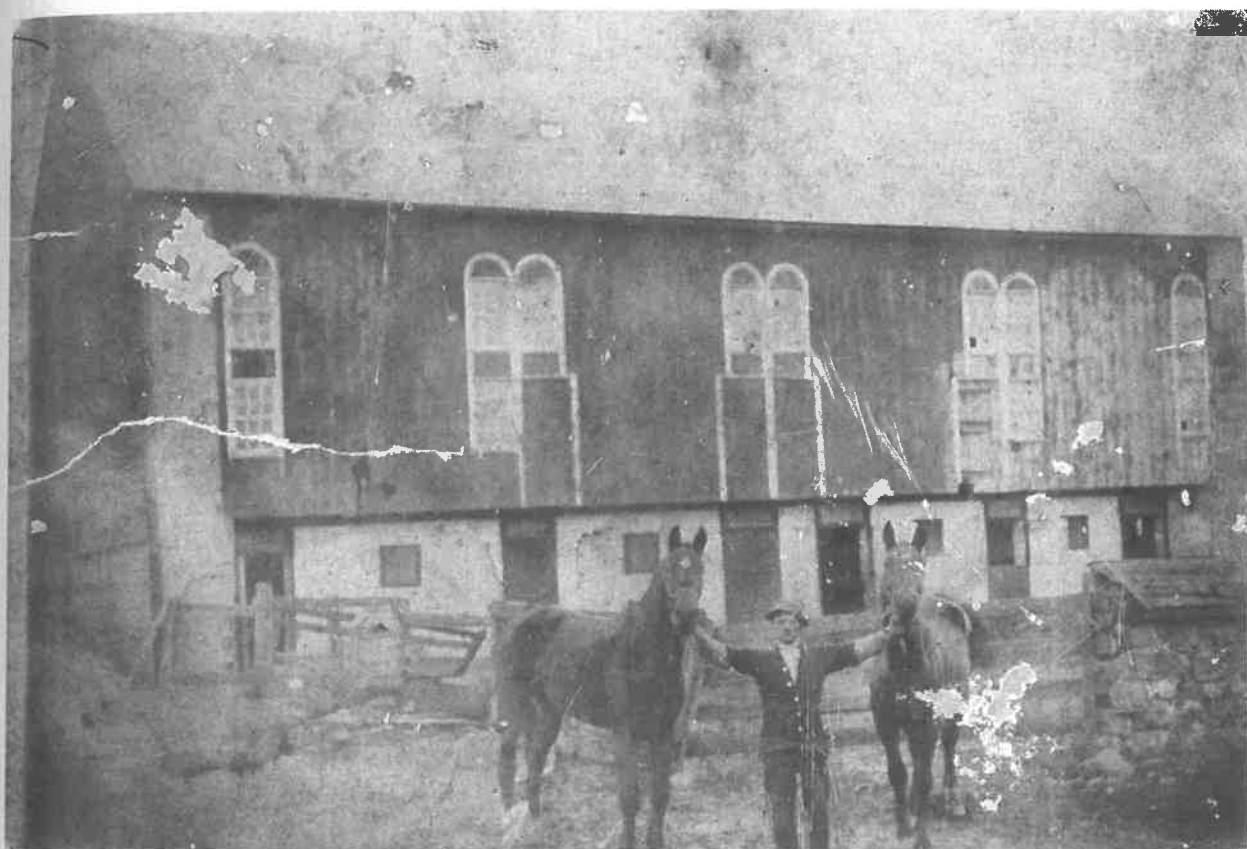
The local church history contained in the corner-stone is as follows:  
Biography of John Henry Hoffmeier (1760-1838), first minister of Friedens Church; copy of his sermon "The Violation of the Sabbath".

Proclamation at the laying of the corner-stone of Friedens Church the 9th of May, 1839.  
 Constitution of Friedens Reformed Congregation — 1915  
 Renovation Program of Friedens Union Church — 1937  
 Rededication Program of Friedens Union Church — 20th of April, 1944  
 Homecoming Day Program — 5th of October, 1952  
 The 160th Anniversary of the Evangelical and Reformed Congregation of Friedens Church — 18th of October, 1953  
 Centennial Celebration of Friedens Union Sunday School — 29th and 30th of April, 1st of May, 1955  
 Historical and Doctrinal Folder of Friedens Evangelical and Reformed Church  
 The 170th Anniversary of Friedens Union Church — 24th of November, 1963  
 Names of persons submitting FAITH as the new name for the former Friedens congregation: Mrs. Edwin Butz, Mr. Steve Mitchell, Mrs. LeRoy Stahler  
 Financial brochure of Faith United Church of Christ  
 Faith United Church of Christ Annual Report — 1964  
 Ground Consecration Service — 7th of March, 1965  
 Souvenir shovel — Ground consecration  
 Service of Ground Breaking — 7th of March, 1965  
 Membership listing as of the 13th of June, 1965  
 Bulletin of Morning Service — 13th of June, 1965  
 Bulletin of Corner-Stone Laying service — 13th of June, 1965  
 List of pastors of Friedens Church  
 The Faith Flame — June, 1965  
 Proclamation at the laying of the Corner-Stone of St. Paul's Church — 28th of April, 1833  
 Charter and by-laws of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations of St. Paul's Church — 1910  
 Record of vote to merge with Faith Church, Center Valley — 14th of March, 1965  
 Bulletin of the 6th of June, 1965 — St. Paul's Church



Shown above is the Saucon Mennonite Church on old Route 309 between Center Valley and Coopersburg. This structure was built in 1841; the earliest building on this site was of log and had been constructed in 1738.

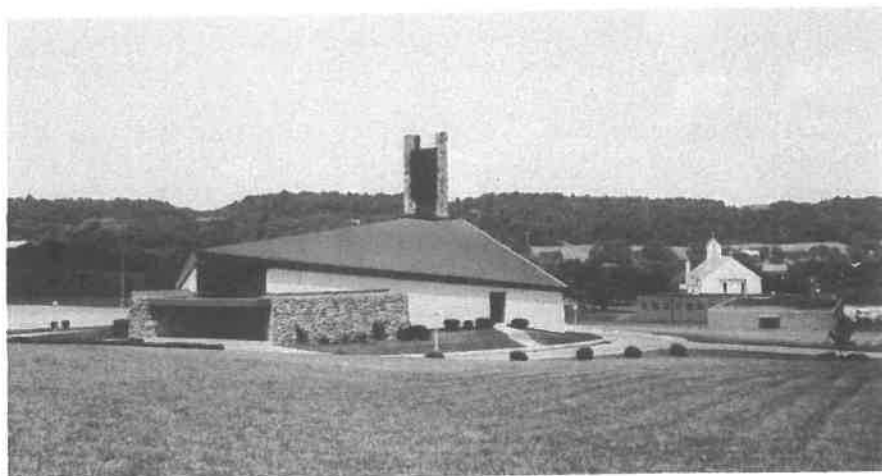




Pictured above is the barn that was converted into St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. Taken in 1913, the strapping fellow holding the reins of the two steeds was Reuben Schaffer, Sr.



This picture represents the barn after its conversion into a church. In the background is the home where the Sisters now reside.



The new St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church was built in 1970 when the old building was no longer structurally sound.



A view of St. Joseph's Catholic Chapel in Colesville, the Assumption Parish.



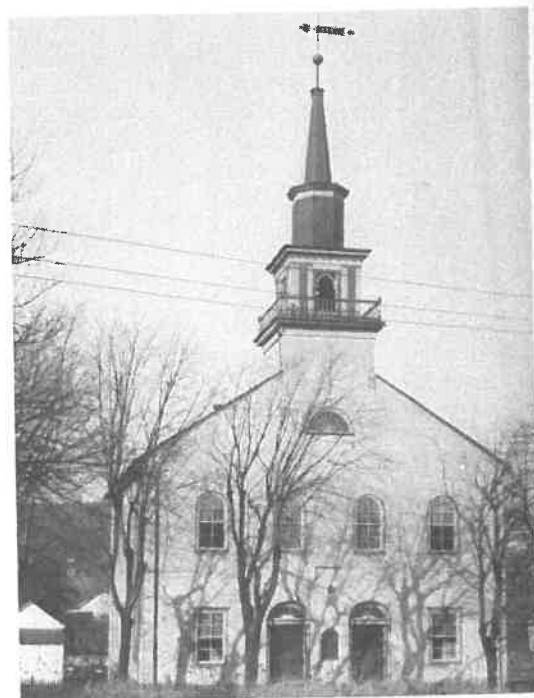
Interior view of the Grace Moravian Church in Center Valley. This view was taken when the church was owned by the Baptist Congregation.



Interior view of the Friedensville Church taken at Harvest Home. Pastor Nevin Gearhart was at the pulpit ..... 1944 (Sept. 10)



Interior view of Friedensville Church before remodeling.



Two early pictures of Friedensville Church taken in the 1900's. Note the car and the dwelling on the corner (which is no longer standing).

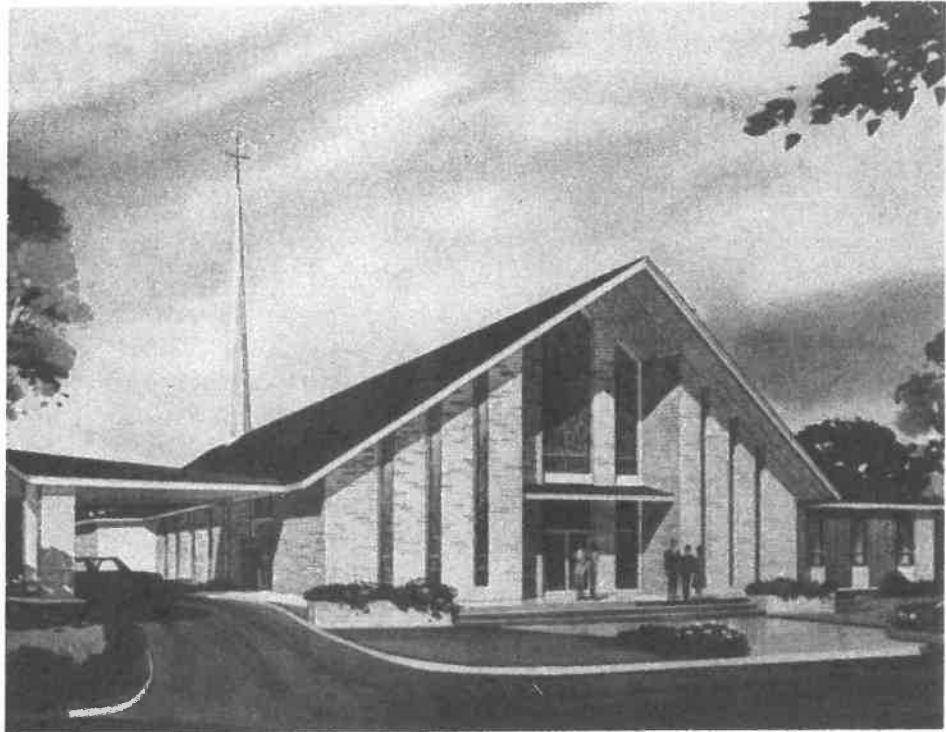
Carmelite Monastery located in Lanark on Lanark Road. It is part of the Weibel Estate.



Picture of workmen who worked on the interior sculptor inserts for the Carmelites.

God's Missionary Church located on East Landis Street in Coopersburg.





An architect's concept of the Faith United Church of Christ in Center Valley.



Exterior view of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church of Summit Lawn.





St. Paul's (Blue) Lutheran Church

This picture shows the church when it still retained the "blue colored" stucco which gave the church its name. When the stucco started to deteriorate, several attempts were made to repair and return the stucco to its original color. Unsuccessful in these attempts, the stucco has been repaired and the native stone repointed. The doors of the church are painted "blue", in an effort to retain the color "blue" somewhere in the structure. Interestingly, this is in all probability the only Lutheran church with blue doors, the accepted color seems to be red.

## GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP

*by Fran Petro and Rosemary Cozzolino*

In the year 1730, we began to see an influx of settlers into the area today known as Upper Saucon Township. The possibility of settlers prior to that date is remote. Remember, this settlement was taking place 10 years before the Moravians started Bethlehem. The area to the north of South Mountain was desolate and inhabited primarily by the Indians.

By 1743 the area that was to become a township contained sufficient inhabitants to organize:

	<i>Area in which Signer Lived</i>
Christian Newcomer . . . . .	Blue Church/Locust Valley
Philip Geissinger . . . . .	Blue Church
George Zewitz . . . . .	Grist Mill at Center Valley
Henry Rinker . . . . .	Spring Valley
John Yoder . . . . .	Center Valley
John Reeser . . . . .	Grist Mill between Coopersburg and Center Valley
Christian Smith . . . . .	Boundary of Bucks & Lehigh
Henry Bowman . . . . .	Between Center Valley & Lanark
Samuel Newcomer . . . . .	Indian Camp Site
Benedict Gehman . . . . .	Center Valley
Valentine Steinmetz . . . . .	Vera Cruz Road
Henry Rinker, Jr. . . . .	Spring Valley
George Trahn (Strahan?) . . . . .	Saucon Valley Golf Course
Andrew Warner . . . . .	Limeport
Thomas and Owen Owen . . . . .	Standard School — Tavern
John Williams . . . . .	?
John Tool . . . . .	Wittman's Corners
John Thomas . . . . .	Lanark/Standard Area
Joseph Samuels . . . . .	Lanark
Isaac Samuels . . . . .	Lanark
William Morry . . . . .	Lanark
Michael Weber . . . . .	Friedensville Zinc Mine
John Apple . . . . .	Saucon Valley Golf Course
Jacob Gangeware . . . . .	Saucon Valley Golf Course
Henry Keiber . . . . .	Vera Cruz Road
George Bachman . . . . .	Tavern at Coopersburg
George Marsteller . . . . .	Locust Valley
Henry Rumfeld . . . . .	Beverly Hills Section

Why this particular township was designated "Upper Saucon" is still a puzzle to anyone studying a map of Lehigh County. This list shows how widespread the inhabitants were within the Township. Remember, the territory covered by the Township . . . 14,000 Acres . . . was part of Bucks County. In 1752, when Northampton County was formed from a portion of Bucks County, the southern portion of the township line was straightened. In 1812, Upper Saucon Township was absorbed into Lehigh County and in 1839, the Township was enlarged when the Northwestern boundary was moved from the base of the Lehigh (South) Mountain to the summit. 1879 was when the borough of Coopersburg was formed; the area covered by the Township was now . . . 15,232 Acres.

The first court of Northampton County was held in the house of Jacob Bachman on June 16,



1752 — 9 years after the organization of the Township. At that time Christian Newcomer was appointed Constable for the Township. Justices of the Peace were appointed via the King of England prior to the Revolution; the names of three of these who resided in Upper Saucon were Squire Jacob Morry, Thomas Owen, and Henry Kosken. Morry retains the distinction of having been appointed a justice after the Revolution by no other than Benjamin Franklin.

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JACOB MORRY, Esquire (Commission)

In the name and by the Authority of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the Supreme Executive Council of the said Commonwealth to Jacob Morry, Esq. of the County of Northampton. Reposing as special trust and confidence in your patriotism, prudence, integrity and abilities, Know that we have assigned you one of the Justices of the County Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Northampton giving you and granting unto you Jacob Morry full Power and Authority to execute and perform all the several acts and things which any Justice of the said Court by the Constitution and Laws of this Commonwealth lawfully can, may ought to do, therefore and to hold the same Power and Authority for 7 years from the 17th of September, 1784, you behaving yourself well. Given under the hand of his excellency, Benjamin Franklin, Esq., President and the seal of the state at Philadelphia this 24th day of November in the year of our Lord, 1785.

Recorded: December 14, 1785

Through the years, such people as Daniel Cooper, William H. Long, Peter Cooper, Thomas Romig, Daniel Fritz, Philip Pierson, Charles W. Wieand, and Andrew Wittman were justices prior to 1840. After 1840, some of the justices were Charles E. Christ, Joshua Frey, Charles W. Cooper, George Blank, Henry B. Pierson, William H. Snyder, G. W. Brinker, P. S. Fenstermacher, A. H. Huff, O. J. Biehn, W. H. Walbert, C. E. Biehn, and A. E. Rinn.

Not only were the native sons active in Township government, they were also interested and active in County and State government. In 1802, Peter Knepley was appointed the Coroner of Northampton County; Joseph Frey, Jacob Erdman, Dr. Jesse Samuels, Peter Cooper, Dr. Thomas Cooper, John Philip Wint, William Stehr, Joshua Frey, Frank B. Heller, W. H. Snyder, Philip Pierson, Henry Pierson, George Blank, and John Blank were all active in government for a period covering 100 years.

The first major legislation enacted for township supervisors was passed on May 18, 1765, when the provisional government required the election of supervisors for all townships. In 1899, the Legislature established a rating system: First Class Townships contained 300 or more inhabitants per square mile; all other townships were Second Class (Upper Saucon was Second Class).

Presently, the number of Township supervisors and employees is determined by proportion and is based on the size and needs of the Township. Officials of a Second Class Township receive less compensation for their services than any other government officials.

1974 was a progressive year for the Township government. On May 28th, the office of Township Manager was created and on September 30th . . . Jeffrey J. Johns was hired as the first Township Manager. Also, in September the Board of Supervisors petitioned to increase the number of supervisors from 3 to 5.

For the first time five supervisors, in January 1976, began serving the Township.

Lyle H. Kushner — Chairman

Gerard E. Cozzolino — Vice-Chairman

Charles V. Ruppert

Alfred A. Siess

Gloria B. Walsh\*

\*Mrs. James Walsh is the first female supervisor in the Township.

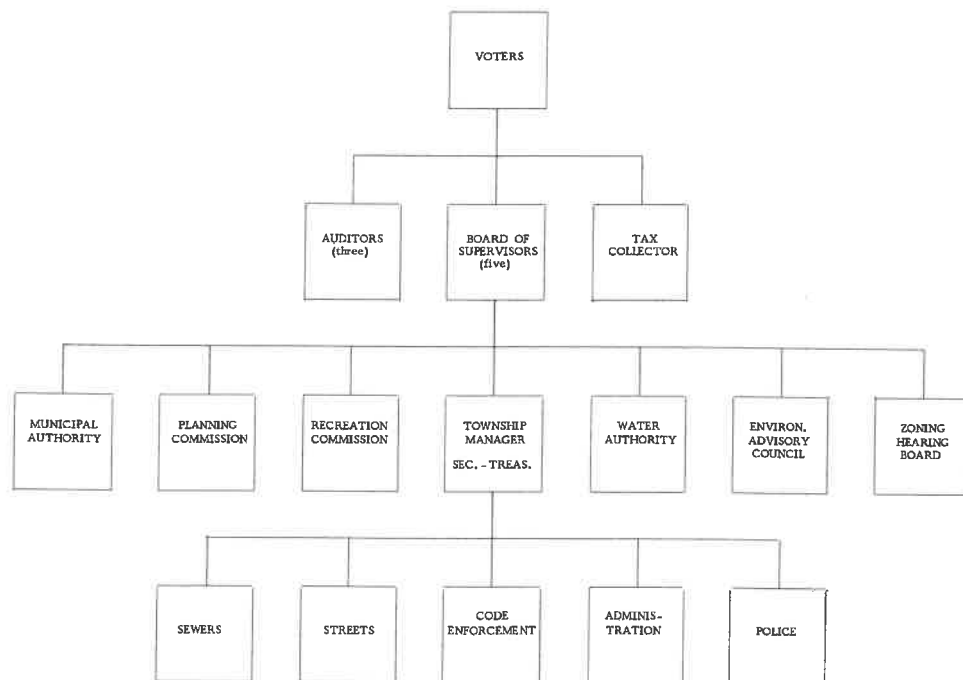
At this point we would like to present the government's view of the township via one of their letters of correspondence:

The township is basically suburban in nature with very few industrial and commercial operations. Our local government, being progressive and keeping in mind future growth, has approved a comprehensive zoning plan with emphasis on residential and park areas. Under this plan, commercial and light industrial areas comprise a very small section of the Township.

As a Second-Class Township, we are governed by a Board of Supervisors. A full-time Township Manager is the chief administrative official subject to policies determined by the Board of Supervisors. The Township has one of the most progressive Police Departments in the area, with a staff of eight officers who provide twenty-four hour protection seven days a week. The Police Department is a participating member of the Lehigh County Communications Systems. The Township is divided into three fire districts in conjunction with the above-mentioned Communications System. Local volunteer fire companies give excellent service to the area and all of the districts provide volunteer ambulance services. A Public Works department keeps the Township roads in excellent condition; open in winter for easy access to the area cities and shopping centers. The Pennsylvania Department of Highways maintains the State roads. Municipal water and sewage services are available in certain areas of the Township. The area also has a fine Public Library. Excellent recreational facilities are supervised by a joint area Recreation Commission, with a complete schedule of summer activities. Upper Saucon has one of the lowest composite tax structures in the Lehigh Valley.

The Organization Chart of the Township is offered for your perusal.

#### UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION CHART



For 233 years the Township has experienced growth. Little did the 95 household heads in 1762 realize that by 1976 the township would consist of 10,000 inhabitants; that there would be a progressive school system; that their narrow roads would become super highways. The only thing that has remained constant is that very little industry exists in the Township; it has remained a suburban community . . . still farmed as it was in the 1700's. And the many stone and log and brick structures built by those early settlers are still here . . . as a monument to their pioneering spirit.

## MILLS THAT ONCE WERE

by *Elsie Gruver*

Gleaning the information for the Mills of Upper Saucon Township, to honor the 200th anniversary of our Country, was a "grinding" experience. A lot of water has gone over the dam since 1776!!

Our sources of information were: "The History of Upper Saucon Township" by Albert Ohl, "The History of Lehigh County" by Roberts, tax records, maps and articles from the Morning Call by J. Stuart Wetselle, and many telephone calls and personal visits.

We talked to all those people we felt would be able to add just a little more information to what we already had: however, we are sure that discrepancies will show up.

Before beginning, the following list shows, by date, those persons who were engaged in the occupation of milling within the township.

### 1772 Proprietary Tax

Auen, David	Farmer, S.M.
Geissinger, John	Farmer, G.M.
Huff, Frederick	Farmer, G.M.
Romick, Adam	Farmer, G.M.

### 1779 Northampton Co. Tax

Appel, Honnes	Woll Mill
Boehr, Johan	Miller
Gongewehr, Mathias	Wheelright
Huss, Frederick	Miller
Hillegass, Michael	Wright
Rieser, David	Saw Mill
Romich, Adam	Flower Mill
Ziegler, Michael	Woll Mill

### 1785 Tax List

Geissinger, John	G.M.
Mohr, Friedrich	G.M., S.M.
Riesser, David	S.M.
Romig, Adam	G.M.
Ziegler, Michael	G.M., S.M.

### 1786 Tax List

Apple, Martin	Fuller, F.M.
Geisinger, John	Miller
Mohr, Fredrick	Miller — G.M., S.M.
Owen, David	S.M.
Romig, Adam	G.M.
Smith, Peter	Wheelwright
Ziegler, Michael	Miller, G.M., S.M.

### 1788 Tax List

Apple, Martin	Fuller, F.M.
Bachman, Abraham	G.M.
Morh, Frederick	Miller; GM, SM
Reeser, David	F.M.
Romig, Adam	G.M.
Zeigler, Stoffle	Miller; GM, SM

### 1798 Window Tax List

Apple, Martin	Log Barn & Fulling Mill
Bachman, Abraham	Stone Barn & Saw Mill
Shitz lived on Daniel	Cooper's property which contained an oil mill.
John Geissinger	Grist & Saw Mill; Log Barn & Mill House
Henry Kookan	Grist & Saw Mill; Frame Barn
Mohr, Frederick	Grist & Saw Mill; Log Barn
Miller, Casper	Stone & Log Barn; Saw Mill
Newcomer, George	Old Log Barn; Grist Mill; Stable
Reeser, David	Saw Mill; Frame Barn

The 1850 Census List gives the following occupations of miller and millright:

	MILLER	MILLRIGHT
William Landis	David Ritter	Oliver Hickel
Sarah Landis	Peter Sleifer	William Hasp
Benjamin Jacoby	Jesse Solladay	Charles Mohr
Solomon Young	William Wagner	Charles Moyer
Henry Beidlre	Tom Lynn	
Dan Berger	William Hottel	
Henry Hottel	Peter Goeble	
Robert Van Court		

Adam Romig's will (probated in 1798) indicated that his mill in Upper Saucon had been purchased from George Bauman and the Tan Yard, formerly Knepley's Place, had been purchased from Bishoff. He also owned 13 acres of woodland on Grubs Hill which he had purchased from Peter Werst and another 16 acres of woodland on Grubs Hill that he purchased from Bishoff. Romig also owned a mill in Whitehall Township.

#### ZEVITZ MILL:

George Zevitz (Savitz) was the owner of a log grist mill prior to 1752; the mill may have been built as early as 1731, making it the first mill in the present county of Lehigh.

This mill, which was located in Center Valley, was purchased by Jacob Geisinger and Enos Erdman on September 14, 1858. Prior to that time it had been destroyed by fire and a stone structure replaced the original log building. Erdman sold his share to Geisinger in 1880; the mill remained in the possession of the Geisinger family and they served the community for nearly a century.

After its usefulness as a mill passed into oblivion, it was used as an entertainment center (the "Olde Mill") featuring, on Saturday night, a band for dancing and a bar. The huge water wheel was the center of attraction for many. Sam Chevalier and his wife were the owners at this time.

In later years this facility was known as the "Mod Mill", a spot for teenagers. Teens from far and wide came to enjoy the hospitality of the late Eddie Sacks, Indy race car driver. When the southern route of Rt. #309 was planned, the mill (which had been located near the Station Avenue exit as you travel south in Center Valley), as well as the stately old homestead, was razed to make way for the new superhighway!!!

#### LANDIS MILL:

This mill was located on the farm that is now Tumblebrook Golf Course. According to a board on the mill, it was built in 1851 by Abraham Stauffer and had a water wheel 23 feet high.

Several millers operated this business; one of whom, Mr. Geisinger, met with an accident in which the clothing was torn from his body. Henry Druckenmiller was the miller in 1885 when Alfred F. Landis bought the property. When Henry quit as miller, Mr. Landis (a son) took over until 1921.

#### LANDIS MILL:

The William B. Landis Mill was located about one-half a mile down from Stopp's Mill between Coopersburg and Center Valley, diagonally across the street from the Saucon Mennonite Church. Across the nearby bridge, Mr. Landis built a barn and a white house; the former is now owned by the Bechtels.

Articles such as chair rungs, bed posts, hoe handles, and rakes were turned out on the lathes at the mill; later, Charles Beck wove carpets here. Eventually, the mill was sold for \$400.....dismantled.....then, rebuilt as a GARAGE!!! in Quakertown.

#### WILLIAM H. LANDIS MILL:

The stone remnants of a mill and race\*\* can still be seen on Landis Mill Road and Washington Lane between Center Valley and Spring Valley. This is the site of the William H. Landis Mill. William H. Landis (Jacob's son) came from Durham County in 1841 and bought the mill from Katz.

Much business was transacted here during the Civil War. At that time Peter Landis (who may have been the owner, or the operator?) paid \$3.50 for a bushel of wheat; it was then ground into flour and sold for \$16 to \$18 per barrel. The proximity of the mill to the railroad provided excellent transportation facilities for the distribution of flour.

#### CENTER VALLEY MILL:

In 1922, a feed mill (located on New Street in Center Valley) was purchased by Clinton Kuhns and his son, Albert. During redecoration of the adjoining house, a section of wallpaper was found with this notation: "George Hartman built this house". Presumably, he also built the mill during the late 1800's. When Mr. Kuhns bought the property, grinding was not being done at the mill due to a lack of power and only feed was being sold at this site as the grinding was done at another mill. Shortly thereafter Mr. Kuhns had electrical power installed and restored the mill to full operation.

In 1955 Albert Kuhns sold the mill to Elmer Bachman and son; they later sold it to Arthur Mack, who finally razed the structure.

#### OWEN'S MILL:

David Owen's Mill, located on Ackerman's Lane about one mile from Standard, was last operated by William Ackerman and his brother, Paul. Mr. Ackerman and his sons had inherited the mill from Mr. Mast.

It was a grist mill, cider press, saw mill, and a storage place for grain. At some time during the ownership of David Owen, felt was made here. This, in turn, was made into hats, perhaps as early as 1770.

During the early years water was the chief source of power; later, however, a Chrysler motor furnished the power to run the machinery. Today, the mill is almost in ruins!!!

#### MILTON K. LANDIS MILL:

The handle factory presently located on Station Avenue in Coopersburg had previously been located near the Tumblebrook Golf Course on Tumblebrook Road. Milton K. Landis (grandson of Michael Landis) built a mill that had lathes to turn out wooden rakes, handles, chair rungs, table legs, and bed posts. This mill was passed on to Milton B. Landis (his son) and in 1910 burned down. Instead of rebuilding on the same site, Milton Landis moved his factory into Coopersburg.

\*\*Race.....a strong current of running water; also, its channel.

### WITTMAN'S MILL:

Another venture in milling was an immense 3 foot thick stone building at the base of the Lehigh (South) Mountain. To run the machinery with steam was the "brain child" of Mr. Wittman.

He journeyed to a friend in Philadelphia to secure financial aid, but their aid was not forthcoming. Supposedly, the same vision that Mr. Wittman had of this mill was somewhat blurred to his friends. Eventually, enough money was raised to construct the mill but — overhead soon exceeded income and the venture was a failure! The machinery was sold.....the stone walls were torn down and used to make road beds!!!!

### STOPPS MILL:

Stopps Mill was located on the boundary of Upper Saucon and Coopersburg at the northern end of town. This site (which is now Willow Brook) is part of Coopersburg. The water power for this mill was furnished by a huge dam behind the mill which was fed by the waters of the creek flowing through Coopersburg at the Town Hall. The mill, or its owner, had the right-of-way to the waters in the creek up to the bridge at Town Hall. Custom grinding was done here and wool was carded.\*

The original owner was the grandfather of Marcus Hackman. After passing into the hands of a man named Stopp, the mill was abandoned.

\*Carded.....to cleanse and untangle before spinning.



The Landis Mill Grist Mill now demolished. The mill was located on Jacoby Road on the Tumblebrook Golf Course.



The William H. Landis Mill . . . . . we were unable to discover any photographs of this mill; the foundation can be seen and the race way amongst the posion ivy. The picture shown above is the house directly across from the mill.



Zewitz - Romig - Geissinger Grist and Saw Mill . . . . . Built in 1731. Prior to the demolishment of this building in 1970, it was known as the Mod Mill. The location was on Route 309 at Center Valley south of the intersection of Routes 309 and 378.

## "MILLS THAT WITHSTOOD THE TEST OF TIME"

*by Elsie Gruver*

### "GEWITTER MIEHL":

A few mills have withstood the ravages of time. One of these, located between Lanark and Standard about one mile off of the Limeport Pike in a southeasterly direction from the Wedgewood Golf Course, is what we believe to be the "Gewitter Miehl" as referred to in Albert Ohl's book. No other reference to substantiate this fact has been found.

It was called the "Gewitter Miehl" (GEWITTER in Pennsylvania Dutch means "thunder" and MIEHL means "mill") because it depended upon the rain water from "THUNDER SHOWERS" to supply enough water power for full production. Very little grinding was done the rest of the time as the only water supply was the power from nearby springs. Due to the deterioration of the water wheel and the lack of an abundant water supply, the mill was abandoned.

Mr. Ohl referred to the Gewitter Miehl as Gerhard's Mill, further stating that it was the only mill equipped to grind buckwheat into flour.

The aforementioned mill was operated, at one time, in partnership by William Cressman and Noah Reichard; later, Mr. Reichard became the sole owner. After 1917 when Mr. Reichard moved to Center Valley, Mr. Reuben Schaffer took over and did custom grinding of all kinds of grain for catlefeed. In the early 1920's, Mr. Schaffer abandoned the mill which has now been made into a dwelling.

### ZAPACK'S MILL:

About two miles west of Wedgewood Golf Course, off of Limeport Pike to the right, is a lane that leads to a mill on the property of Ted Zapack. This mill is located on part of the property of Thomas Mayberry, who had been granted, by the Proprietors of Ye Province of Pennsylvania, 208 acres of land adjacent to David Owen's property.

On January 1, 1770, Philip and Esther Hall, owners of the property on which the mill was located, sold it to Henry Kookon. This deed transaction was the first to mention a grist and saw mill on the property.

### TRACING ZAPACK MILL PROPERTY

January 1, 1770	Philip Hall and wife to Henry Kookon
March 15, 1774	Henry Kookon and wife to Michael Ziegler
May 27, 1794	Christopher Ziegler to Henry Kookon
January 1, 1801	Henry Kookon and wife to Samuel Bachman
April, 1805	Samuel Bachman and wife to Andrew Engelman
April 13, 1837	Andrew Engelman and wife to Reuben Engelman
April 1, 1841	Reuben Engelman and wife to Jesse Soliday
April 15, 1856	Jesse Soliday and wife to William Dillinger (the same tract and yet another)
April 1, 1897	Frank B. Heller, Emmanuel J. Wider, (executors for William Dillinger, deceased) to Joel Yeakel
March, 1913	Joel Yeakel and wife to J. George Snyder



No Date . . . . . J. George Snyder and wife to William Miller  
March 21, 1916 . . . . . William Miller and wife to Frank Erdman

A Mr. Weaver is supposed to have lived on this property before Mr. Kobalt. Kobalt sold the property to the present owner, Ted Zapack.

Structurally, the mill is in very good condition after recent repairs. The water wheel which is about twenty-five foot high and five foot wide and the wooden gears are still intact. Currently, Ted Zapack uses the mill to dry corn; he hopes to do further repairing and preserve the mill for posterity.

#### YOUNG'S MILL:

Young's Mill (later the John Ritter Mill) is located on Mill Road about one quarter mile west of the Bible Fellowship Church on North Main Street in Coopersburg. The first mill burned down and was rebuilt by Mr. Ritter, who vacated the mill (about 1919, or 1920) and then sold it. During the depression years, the new owner (name unknown) converted the mill into a pants factory. Later, it was sold to Fred Ritter who raised chickens for a number of years. Then, Mr. Kohler bought the mill from Mr. Ritter and converted it into a dwelling.

#### LONG'S MILL:

Long's Mill is in Center Valley, a short distance off of Route #378 at the intersection of 378 with Route #309. Here Walter F. Long, sone of the late Walter K. Long, is still actively engaged in doing business . . . . . grinding all types of grain for animal feed. The power for running the machinery is furnished by diesel and electricity.

Walter K. Long bought the mill from Noah Reichard in 1929. Through the years Solomon Gehman, Mr. Wilt, and Noah Reichard operated the mill which had been built in 1850; the barn was built a few years earlier . . . . about 1839.

#### STOVER'S (STAUFFER'S) MILL:

Stover's (Stauffer's) Mill, between Blue Church and Center Valley, is located on Mill Road near the intersection of Mill Road and Gun Club Road. In later years this mill was known as Stroud's Mill. Today, it is a private residence (there is a date of 1796 on the dormer door).

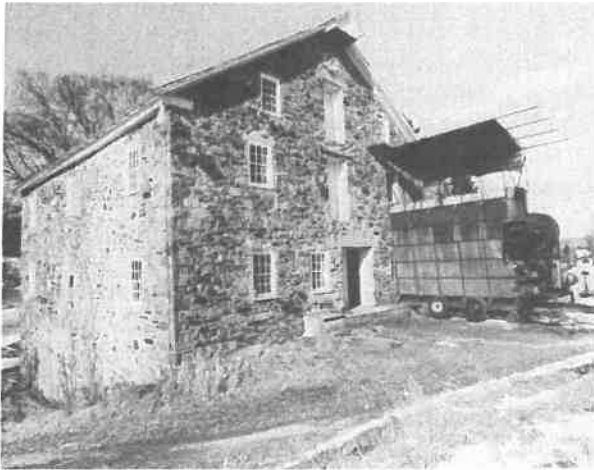
In 1938 Joseph Illick bought the mill from Jim Stroud; Stroud procured the property from Ephraim Stover in 1896; Ephraim from Amos Haring in 1866; Haring from Jacob Geisinger in 1857; and, Jacob from his father (Samuel) in 1829.

Mr. Illick remembers that one of the mill doors had the following inscription written in heavy crayon: "Abe Lincoln was shot on April 14, 1865". Mr. Illick's interest in mills comes from his grandfather, owner of Illick's Mill in Bethlehem's Illick Mill Park.

#### BEIDELMAN'S MILL:

At the eastern end of Upper Saucon Township near the boundary of Lehigh County and Northampton is the village of Spring Valley. Here, two brothers, Ephraim and Sylvanus Beidelman operated a mill known as "Beidelman's Mill". The water for this mill came from several springs near the Franklin Schoolhouse and from a dam about 500 yards from the mill. The discharge waters were the last to flow into the nearby Big Saucon Creek at the site of the old Bingen Brick Works.

The mill is located adjacent to the Spring Valley Dam and Trout ponds and the former William Slifer's store and Post Office. The Post Office was known as Sauconia because there was another Spring Valley in the state. After the death of Sylvanus Beidelman (the grandfather of the late William Beidelman), Mr. James Gramley became the proprietor of the mill until the early 1900's; it was then abandoned and is now the residence of Mr. Kirk.



Zapack's Mill (previously known as the Kolbalt's Mill) located off the Limeport Pike near the road to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. The mill has a date stone of 1819.



Spring Valley - Beidelman's Mill - Now the residence of Mr. Kirk.



Gerhardt..... "Thunder Mill" This was the only mill to grind Buckwheat flour. It is located east of West Hopewell Road between Lanark and Standard School section; in the lane known as Karpovich's.



Walter Long Flour Mill..... General milling - This mill is located off Route 378 at the intersection of Route 309 in Center Valley.



Illick's Mill (formerly known as Stroudt's Mill) has a date of 1796 inscribed on it. The mill is located at the intersection of Mill Road and Gunclub Road between the Blue Church and Coopersburg.



Ackerman's Saw Mill/Cider Press ..... now part of the Leonard residence. This is located off the Limeport Pike between Chestnut Hill Road and Cozy Corner Lane.



The John Ritter Mill ..... now a dwelling located on Mill Road in Center Valley.



Wheel from the John Ritter Mill.

## POST OFFICES & COUNTRY STORES:



With limited space we were unable to provide indepth information on all post offices and country stores. So, we have chosen to do the history on a representative example as this store and post office was operative from the early 1800's until 1925.

In 1735 William Morry acquired 300 acres of land from William Allen, 125 acres of this tract encompassed the farm containing the homestead pictured above. In 1750 William Morry sold this tract to his son, Squire Jacob Morry, one of the justices of the Peace in the Township.

In 1760 Jacob Morry sold the tract to Peter Knepley, the schoolteacher at the Blue Church. Whether Jacob Morry or Peter Knepley (both of whom later fought in the Revolutionary War) built the first portion of the house is not known. The oldest section of the house includes the portion from the front door to the right of the door.

Peter and his wife, Christiana Gangewehr, had two children at this time. The eldest, a daughter Ester, never married and lived to be 89 years old; their son, Johann Philip must have died at an early age as there is no record of him during the Revolutionary War. Interestingly, Johann Philip's baptismal sponsor was none other than Johann Philip Boehm, youngest son of Rev. Johann Philip Boehm . . . the first Reformed minister in Pennsylvania and one of the first in America.

Once established in their new home, they proceeded to enlarge the family with the addition of 6 more sons and one daughter. Although early documentation on this family is available, we loose contact with them from the Revolutionary War until the year 1794 . . . when Peter Knepley, the patriarch died. In the interim years Peter lost two sons: Johann Philip and Andreas. By 1801, he would also loose his oldest living son — Matthias, at the age of 36.

In the unsuccessful attempt to settle their father's estate the following were listed as inheritors: his wife, Christiana (67 years) and the following children: Melchior (31 years); Peter (29 years); John (26 years); Mary Magdalena or Molly (21 years); and Jacob (19 years). Surprisingly, the occupations of the male members of this family were never documented although Peter is supposed to have opened the store at Heller's Tavern during this time.

In 1801 the Knepley family consisted of 6 adults, all living at the homestead. Molly's marriage to Frederick Wittman was impending and we feel that it was at this time that the house was enlarged. Since Peter had started the store at Heller's Tavern, a family conference led to the proposal to add additional space and move the store to the homestead. (As you look at the picture the section to the left of the front door and the small summerkitchen (not pictured) to the rear of the house were added sometime between 1790 and 1805.) Presumably, the addition was to provide space for the new bride and groom.

Documentation on the ensuing years is vague. In 1802 Peter was elected to the position of Coroner of Northampton County. In 1810 Peter finally succeeded in settling his father's estate and bought the homestead farm from the rest of the family. In 1817 we find Peter engaged in the merchantile trade in Philadelphia under the name of "Kneppley, Reed, and Beidelman"; in 1833 he is listed as a merchant in the city of Philadelphia.

Shortly after his marriage to Molly, Frederick Wittman entered into the storekeeping business, presumably at the latest and last addition to the house. This is the one story stone building attached to the main house. Deeds in the early 1820's referred to the store at this location.

Interestingly, moneylending may also have been part of the storekeeping activities at this location as there were no documented banks in the area at this time. It was considered part of the storekeeper's duties.

The doorfront on the Country Store portion of the homestead is a classic example of Philadelphia architecture at its best; it is assumed that Peter Kneppley's many connections in politics and in the merchantile trade with Philadelphia was responsible for the architectural features of this property that differ from that of other area homes.

During 1827, Peter Kneppley was appointed to the position of Auditor; he was now 45 years old; and, in 1829, 1830, 1831, and 1832 he served in the State House of Representatives. It is assumed that these connections lead to the establishment of the post office in August 25, 1841 (known as the Saucon Post Office) at this location. The Post Office remained at this location until 1861; on July 25, 1862 the post office was moved to the small Victorian house at Wittman's Corner under the guidance of Charles Wittman. The name of the post office was changed to that of Lanark.

Frederick and Molly Wittman's family had grown over the years. Although they stayed in the homestead, in the 1830's to 1840 period the family added the stone house to the south of the barn. The footprints of their infant sons were found in the stucco floor insulation of the Country Store at the Kneppley Homestead. Andrew's initials were etched in one of the stones on the side of the barn (he was born the same year the barn was built). Briefly, their son's activities can be recapped as follows:

Joseph Wittman . . . . . the oldest son followed in the footsteps of his father and uncle and established a store in the Limeport area in 1830; he also built the hotel at Limeport and sold limestone for profit. One of the homes he built (pictured in the photographic supplement) stands on property that was originally owned by the Kneppley family. They also owned the property on which the dam that controlled the mill race for what is now Zapack's mill stood.

Charles Wittman . . . . . builder of the Victorian home at Wittman's Corners and postmaster at both the Kneppley Homestead and the Lanark Post Office. Charles was an inventor and responsible for the establishment of the grape vineyards on South Mountain, the remains of which are still evident today.

Andrew Wittman . . . . . the discoverer of zinc. Also engaged as a surveyor he was active in the county government.

Peter Wittman . . . . . upon the death of his mother and his two uncles, John and Peter Kneppley, he obtained the family homestead and pursued the farming occupation. His wife was Louisa Mory, a direct descendant of Squire Jacob Mory and the sister of Morgan Mory, a well-known land owner in the late 1800's.

In 1854 at the age of 82, Peter Kneppley died. He was blind at the time of his death. The mystery of why so many of the Kneppley family never married remains unsolved. Certainly, the neighbors would have considered marriage into this family a highly desirable match — both politically and socially. Possibly some inherent illness (blindness?) was the reason as records hint at the illness of other family members.

After Peter's death, the farm came into the possession of Peter Wittman; then, in 1866 Morgan Mory sold the property to his sister, Louisa (Peter's wife). We have never been able to discover how Morgan Mory obtained the property. Upon the death of Peter Wittman, the farm was sold by his two sons, Sylvanus and John, to Lewis P. Trexler in 1903.

During the years that the Wittman's still owned the homestead, Sylvanus operated the post office. Oft times the store was rented out. A Mr. Henninger worked the farm as a tenant farmer for a

brief period and Newberry Ulmer ran the store prior to the time the farm was acquired by the Trexlers. The Trexlers tenant farmed the homestead for a few years (from 1894) until their acquisition of the farm in 1903.

Lewis Trexler and his wife ran the store and the post office until the late 1920's. At this time the store was discontinued and the rural free mail delivery made the post office unnecessary. The post office went the way of so many other small rural post offices at this time. (Pictured is one of the local rural delivery postmen, Henry Hartman, taken in the late 1920's.)



## SCHOOLS: UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP

*by Barbara Petro*

Among the German settlers who emigrated to Lehigh County and Upper Saucon Township, there was hardly any illiteracy. They came in groups and were often accompanied by a minister and a teacher. Although there were exceptions to the rule, these early settlers were church people who held both religion and education in high esteem. Soon after their arrival, they made provision for places of worship and in due time made provision for the education of their children. They believed that education made better citizens and enhanced the ability and usefulness of its possessors.

Almost without exception, the earliest schools were established at churches or places of worship. Frequently, the school house preceded the erection of a church, and served the double purpose of church and school. The pastor was often the secular teacher. Although these were church schools so far as instruction was concerned, they were not directly supported by the church. Each parent who sent children had to pay in proportion to the total number of days sent. In most cases the teacher "boarded round". The earliest studies included Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. The German language was employed almost exclusively. In some cases, catechism and the doctrines of the church, with singing, were required. These schools were not strictly denominational, but generally admitted the children of other denominations.

One of the earliest "church schools" was erected between Coopersburg and Center Valley by the Mennonites in 1738. This was a log building serving the dual purpose of church and school. It was divided into two apartments by a hanging partition. When attendance at religious services was very large, the partition was raised and the two rooms became one. This building was modeled after one erected by the Mennonites in Upper Milford Township between 1735 and 1740. The Upper Saucon "church school" burned and was replaced in 1747. Between 1740 and 1745 a "church school" was established by the Lutherans. A third building used for school and church purposes was erected by the Quakers about 1745 on the lands of John Thomas (later owned by Clayton De Witt). All indications that a Quaker congregation, church, or school ever existed in the township have disappeared. The cemetery for the congregation has been likewise obliterated. In this case, it became the house-yard of the De Witt home.

Two teachers of this period are known to us. One, is a man most frequently referred to as "Vigero". Investigations indicate that "Vigero" is probably J. F. Vigera who served as one of Pastor Muhlenberg's assistants at the Blue Church between 1745 and 1749. In 1746 when Pastor Muhlenberg told the congregation that he could no longer serve them, he sent schoolmasters Vigera and J. J. Loeser in his place. Schoolmaster Vigera memorized sermons in order to deliver them. The schoolmaster was a gifted singer and edified the congregation by his singing and preaching. Schoolmaster Vigera was transferred to Philadelphia in the fall of 1748. The second was Peter Knepley who served the Lutheran Congregation at Blue Church and who married Christina Gangaware on June 23, 1757.

As the population increased and settlers moved away from the immediate vicinity of the churches, a demand for more schools was created. During this period, schools were held in private houses. It is known that school was held in the Western Section in the house of John Egner (later owned by James Kidd), with Frederick Arnold as the first teacher; in the Standard Section in the house of Erhard Weaver (later Charles Weaver); in the Limeport area in the houses of William Samuels (later Alfred Sell); and Frederick Wittman (later John Yoachim); and in the Lanark area in the "Horlacher Smoke House" of David Horlacher (later I. B. Meyers). It is impossible to define or limit the era of this kind of school. Some continued in neighborhoods long after school houses had been erected in others, and some were opened even in the neighborhood of school houses — "to meet a desire for instruction in the English language", the teaching in the school houses, except that of the Quakers, being almost exclusively in German.



School houses were built by communities; and were commonly constructed of log, were small, had low ceilings, and small windows which were few. They were defective in everything but ventilation. The furniture corresponded with the building. The instruction was in the German language. The teachers of these first schools were of foreign birth and educated in Europe. Those at the churches were, generally, the leaders in singing on occasions of religious worship. Nearly all were competent teachers.

About 1760 a general trend developed, throughout Lehigh County, which did harm to the schools. Many teachers left their positions and became "preachers", because the churches could get no other ministers. Less qualified men assumed the role of teacher and schooling suffered as a result. This inaugurated a decline in the requirements for teachers which continued until education became a thing of secondary importance and consequently, greatly neglected.

Often citizens of a neighborhood contributed land etc. for the building of a school. For example, William Morry and his wife Barbara set apart a certain piece or lot of ground for the building of a church or house of worship, a school house, and an open grave yard.

During the last quarter of the 18th century, school associations were formed in various neighborhoods. Abraham Seipler, Gothard Morry, Baltzer Buchecker, Henry Wind, William Beil, John Brunner, Daniel Horlacher, Peter Laubenstein, and Jacob Morry joined together in forming a Society; and, for the use and convenience of keeping school for teaching their children did erect and build a certain log house in 1783 for keeping school. They raised funds, erected school houses, and employed teachers. Unfortunately, as indicated earlier, the quality of these teachers was very poor. Almost any person who came along and made some pretensions to education was employed as a teacher. This often brought into the school room persons entirely unfit, morally and mentally, for the position. These "teachers" were noted for the fact that they often had a birch on the desk and a flask inside the desk or his pocket.

It is related that the last teacher at the Quaker school house loved his dram, and that on the last day of his term some of the larger boys presented him with a bottle of whiskey, got him drunk, and persuaded him to play the violin, while they danced.

Nearly all of the schools were noted for severity in discipline. The teachers were more like "School Masters" than "School Teachers". Some were not only severe, but cruel in their punishments.

Until 1800 the German language was used exclusively. Between 1800 and 1820, English was introduced and taught in some progressive schools. During this time period, a few "English" schools were organized. However, it was not until 1833 that an English school was established in the township. This school was established in a small house in the yard of David Horlocher and was taught by Charles T. Jenkins from Montgomery County. It continued very successfully for 8 years.

In 1828 provision was made for the education of the poorer class. For that purpose Upper Saucon paid the following amounts:

1828 — \$12.95	1835 — \$137.95
1830 — \$14.42	1836 — \$142.61
1833 — \$30.22	1838 — \$167.92
1834 — \$76.41	

School houses built between 1816 and 1834 tended to be very similiar. They were twenty-four by twenty feet, built of log, had low ceilings and small windows and were plastered inside. Along three walls, inside, were long desks, sloping up toward the wall, with high benches without backs. In the center of the room around a very large stove, on two rows, of benches without backs sat the \*abecedarians and the \*a-b-abbs. Near the stove, fronting the school, was the teacher's desk, painted red, about 5' high, with a high stool or bench to correspond. Behind this were hung on pegs, against the wall the shawls, scarfs, hats, and caps. There, too, stood the bucket, with water, often visited by the tired children, not to slake their thirst, but to relieve themselves of the monotony of the school

(\*these terms were used to indicate children beginning school and learning the ABC's.)



room. Near the bucket were stacks of dinner baskets. The course of instruction in English schools embraced reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic. The most commonly used books were:

Comly's Primer and Spelling Book  
Murray's Introduction to the English Reader  
English Reader and Sequel  
Frost's U. S. History  
Pike's Arithmetic

Grammar and Geography were seldom, if ever, taught. The schoolmaster of those times was no teacher, instructor or educator. He was only the master as the title defines it. Neighbors living around the school house would select a master. Sometimes one of these characters would elect himself. If he did not suit, parents would not send their children, and thus stop his salary. The school term was short — approximately 4 months per year.

The day sessions were long — from 8 in the morning until 4:30 or 5 o'clock. There was a one hour lunch period at noon.

The German schools, particularly those at churches opened in the morning with singing and prayer. The morning exercises consisted of reading twice and spelling once. In the afternoon the routine remained the same. The interval between reading and spelling was spent by the larger ones, in writing and ciphering at their seats. In the early German schools the girls were not required to write or cipher. Little or no attention was given to writing by the majority of the masters. All the writing was done with the goose quill; steel and gold pens being unknown in these parts. The making and mending of pens consumed much of the teacher's time and patience.

The Governor of Pennsylvania from 1832 to 1835 was a Pennsylvania German from Easton named George Wolf. He was honest, industrious, not overly ambitious, and not a dreamer. It was George Wolf, who, with the aid of Thaddeus Stevens, was responsible for the School Law of 1834.

This was not the first attempt to promote schooling for the general populace. The Constitution of 1776 called for the establishment of schools in all counties, teacher's salaries to be paid by the public, and the poor taught gratis. The Constitution of 1790 also promoted public education. These early attempts at public education meet with little success for several reasons:

1. The German speaking citizens feared the breakdown of their language and culture if a common school system were established.
2. Some farmer's feared a widening of their children's horizons would make them dissatisfied with farm life.
3. Some of the well-to-do citizens lacked faith in the common man.

The common School Law of 1834 provided for the support of schools through taxation. It provided for systematic school inspections. Its prime weakness was that it did not require children to attend. A Compulsory Attendance Law was not enacted until March 10, 1911. Even parents who recognized the importance of education failed to understand the importance of continuous attendance. Chores at home and weather cut down on attendance.

It was optional for townships to accept or reject the law by election. The common school law produced intense excitement in the township. Violent opposition developed and at the election few votes were cast in its favor. So intense was the feeling against it that during the time that its adoption was optional when a politician desired to have the full vote of the township brought out, all he did was have a rumor spread that the school law would be voted upon and almost every man would be out.

Those townships which refused to accept the Law of 1834 continued to operate under the old one. In 1839 the total amount received for the education of poor children was \$1022.16. Of this total Upper Saucon received \$155.67. Prior to 1839 less substantial sums were received by the township:

The Law of 1834 was not adopted by the township until 1848, when its adoption became mandatory. Six schools had been established prior to this time by associations at the following places:

Blue Church  
Friedensville Church

Mennonite Meeting House  
Coopersburg  
Heller's (near Heller's Tavern)  
Seider's (near Seider's Store)

The names of some of the teachers at these schools were :

Frederick Arnold at John Egner's House and Sieder's.  
Jesse Samuels at William Samuels' House and Seider's.  
Daniel Fried at Frederick Wittman's.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proctor at Seider's.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Oberholtzer at Seider's.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jenkins at Seider's.  
Peter Gerhard at Seider's.  
Michael Urffer at Seider's.  
Anthony Loutenberger at Seider's.  
Joseph Wittman at Seider's.  
Andrew K. Wittman at Seider's.  
George Blank at Seider's.

John Lobb at Blue Church.  
David Mimchinger at Blue Church.  
John Bernd at Blue Church.  
Mr. Musselman at Blue Church.  
Gibson Innes at Coopersburg.  
John Wilson at Coopersburg.  
Lewis Bannister at Coopersburg.  
Joel Torre at Coopersburg.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Barthalmus at Heller's.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Rudy at Heller's.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Rudy at Heller's.

Henry Knope taught at a school-house which stood near the site of the residence of Enos Rechenbach, and which was superseded by the one built later at Coopersburg. An old school-house stood where the Saucon Iron Company's railroad crosses the road near the residence of Rechenbach. It was taken down about the year 1800 and another built on the present site of Heller's. This was destroyed by fire in 1808, another erected in 1809, and one in 1895.

The township took the first step toward adopting the Law of 1834 at the spring election of 1848, when the following board of directors was elected :

Sanford Stephens  
Henry Erdman

John Brunner  
Jacob Rice

Charles E. Christ  
George Blank

They organized by election Charles Christ, President; and George Blank Secretary.

At the same time school directors were elected in Coopersburg. They elected Jacob Schaffer, President; and Dr. H. T. Trumbauer, Secretary.

The Upper Saucon Board raised, by taxation, for school purposes the first year \$536.86. This sum was not sufficient and \$300.00 was borrowed. They built 2 school-houses the first year, one called Socritarian, opposite the site of the Centre Valley school-house, at a cost of \$225.00 and another called Franklin, near the residence of Philip Gangaware, at a cost of \$295.00. The following teachers were appointed :

Aaron L. Butterwick — Blue Church  
Augustus F. Hallenbach — Friedensville  
Mary Jenkins — Heller's  
George Blank — Meeting House

George R. Gates — Socritarian  
Uriah Brunner — Franklin  
William T. Crammer — Coopersburg  
Solomon Fehr — Seider's

The school term was fixed at 6 months and the salary of teachers at \$25.00 per month. The schools were attended by 553 students — 304 boys and 249 girls. The average attendance was 34. Curriculum :

429 — English	36 — Grammar	213 — Arithmetic
124 — German	65 — Geography	

Additional studies including history, composition, and mental arithmetic were added in 1860 and 1875.

Additional school-houses were built later :

1850 — Locust Valley  
1853 — Washington  
1858 — Yoder's  
1859 — Dillinger's  
1861 — Hartman's (Union)

1873 — Webster's (Friedensville) NOTE:  
School was held in the janitor's house until the  
building was erected.  
1876 — Coopersburg (second one)

The school-houses were all furnished with blackboards, patent desks, maps, charts, globes, and flags. The pupils were furnished with the necessary text books and stationery at the public expense.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES:

Until 1854 the school at Friedensville was held at church. In that year a school-house was erected.

The school at Blue Church was held in the basement of the Church until 1868, when a school-house was built.

The school at Meeting House was held in a school-house until 1883, when a new one was erected.

The old school-house at Coopersburg, which because of its shape was called the Octagon, was replaced by a new one in 1857.

The one at Centre Valley was replaced in 1859, Franklin in 1874, Washington in 1875, Locust Valley in 1879, Seider's and Heller's were held in old association school-houses until their replacement by brick structures with steeples and bells in 1896 and 1895 respectively.

In 1854 the Office of County Superintendent was established. The first superintendent was Charles W. Cooper who served from June, 1854 until September, 1855. He was succeeded by Tilghman Good.

A survey conducted in 1855 showed that those schools that had accepted the School Law of 1834 prior to 1849 had better schools, teachers, salaries, etc. in 1855, than those that accepted the law later.

Generally, school-houses built in 1855 were either octagonal or square shaped. They had desks attached to the wall and high seats with out distinction. The students could not touch the floor, not did their backs get any support from opening until dismissal. Only the "magic power of the rod" kept students in line.

Of the teachers employed in 1856, the County Superintendent found 6 to be "fully satisfactory"; 62 were "mediocre"; and 79 "should have been dismissed."

Many applicants for certificates from the County Superintendent should have been rejected. In fact, the issuance of certificates to certain candidates amounted to a rejection. For example, one young man was examined by Superintendent Cooper. This man had a reputation as a competent teacher. Following an extensive examination, he was granted a temporary certificate, with everything erased by orthography, reading, and elementary principles of arithmetic with the following notation: "that which is not erased, the holder is still very deficient in." The applicant was much pleased with his certificate, and was afterwards employed to teach the best school in the district, the written addition being taken to mean an extra recommendation.

The following letter was sent to the Supt. of Schools and is merely one example of a "quality" teacher of this time:

Upper Saucon Township  
Lehigh County

"Dear sir:

I have tryed all means to Become a teacher in our School house, and it Seems there is nun to be found. So I am obliged to due it myself again. They All are satisfied without me having A Satificatn

from you. But I would Rather have one from you, I am able to Teach Reading, Riting, English, and Cherman, Pike, Rose, Mensuration, Surveying. And which is not all Required in our School: and this i am able to Due perfect. Now if you pleas sent me a Satificatn by male. If you will come and visit my School you may Exeman me if you think Proper to Due so you know I have Bin at — at the tiime of your Exam i think it is very Obyous to you that i am able To teach School and the Black Board, i am also able to Support in all practical uestions. Interest bark stone Circle questions and obties Crans, Squares and cumme circles, and all cinte of questions that you will require of me.

Yours Respectfully"

By 1870 we find teachers being issued teaching certificates by the state of Pennsylvania. These certificates were issued by Harrisburg upon the recommendation of Lehigh County authorities. Early certificate holders:

Certificate #	Teacher	Address	Cert. Date
596	Geo. W. Brinker	Limeport	4-7-1870
866	J. F. Jacoby	Locust Valley	2-27-1872
978	F. B. Heller	Limeport	11-19-1872
1484	Lewis H. Jacoby	Locust Valley	7-27-1875

The growth in schooling from 1855 through 1910 may be demonstrated by the attached chart:

TABULAR STATEMENT OF LEHIGH COUNTY FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR ENDING JUNE 6, 1910.

DISTRICTS	Schools.		Teachers.				Scholars.				Tax and Rate Per Cent.				Receipts.
	Whole number.	Average number of months taught.	Number of males.	Number of females.	Average salary of males per month.	Average salary of females per month.	Number of males.	Number of females.	Average number attending school.	Average per cent. of attendance.	Cost per month.	Number of mills levied for school purposes.	Number of mills levied for building purposes.	Total amount of tax levied for school and building purposes.	State appropriation.
1. Allentown city, .....	151	9.67	35	122	\$87 85	\$55 22	3,423	3,440	6,329	92	\$1 86	5	.....	\$171,728 39	\$35,581 21
2. Catasauqua borough, ..	18	10	3	16	105 00	56 81	406	403	689	93	1 99	6	1.5	15,510 35	3,960 84
3. Coopersburg borough, ..	4	9	2	2	72 50	50 00	84	55	95	95	2 09	5	1.65	2,271 85	986 62
4. Coplay borough, .....	8	9	4	5	62 50	44 40	162	162	292	93	1 69	6	3	6,259 30	1,980 53
5. Emmaus borough, .....	14	9	7	7	58 07	49 09	318	307	575	94	1 46	5	1	8,018 74	3,483 57
6. Fountain Hill borough	5	10	1	4	67 50	48 75	134	104	153	91	1 37	5	1.5	4,640 79	1,190 14
7. Grims, Ind., .....	1	7	1	.....	50 00	.....	19	8	19	93	3 98	2.5	.....	298 84	190 52
8. Hanover township, ...	17	7.78	9	8	62 22	51 25	409	351	525	92	1 69	4	1.75	10,171 27	3,361 62
9. Heidelberg township, ..	9	7	3	1	47 81	50 90	130	133	192	91	2 33	3	.....	2,215 97	1,536 17
10. Hokendauqua, Ind., ...	5	10	1	4	110 00	52 50	71	77	129	95	2 71	8	.....	4,393 08	829 84
11. Lowhill township, .....	6	7	6	1	43 00	40 00	84	75	119	93	1 95	5.5	.....	1,820 00	1,015 22
12. Lynn township, .....	19	7	11	8	47 00	45 09	266	253	382	93	2 16	4	.....	5,256 53	3,235 15
13. Macungie borough, ...	3	9	1	2	70 00	52 50	60	66	105	93	1 90	4.5	.....	1,636 24	656 70
14. Macungie, Upper, twp.	14	7	10	4	48 50	48 75	229	198	323	90	1 73	2.5	.....	4,944 16	2,397 33
15. Macungie, Lower, twp.	21	7	12	9	48 33	47 22	328	298	473	92	1 94	3.5	.....	5,921 99	3,801 76
16. Milford, Upper, twp.,	14	7.07	8	6	49 12	45 82	200	197	353	89	2 06	4.5	.....	4,956 12	2,855 26
17. Milford, Lower, twp.,	11	7	8	3	43 25	47 33	139	91	187	88	2 69	4.5	.....	3,587 91	1,858 98
18. Salisbury township, ...	14	7.87	5	9	48 00	46 87	312	301	492	94	2 00	3	.5	4,957 10	7,048 78
19. Saucon, Upper, twp.,	12	7.5	5	7	46 40	46 87	240	211	289	87	1 52	2.75	.....	3,851 46	2,479 77
20. Slatington borough, ...	19	9	5	17	79 00	47 54	438	424	745	95	1 78	9	3	17,315 40	5,720 24
21. South Allentown bor.,	7	8	2	5	57 50	50 00	174	174	229	93	1 42	4.5	.....	2,396 70	.....
22. Washington twp., ....	19	8	12	7	48 00	46 00	322	297	479	90	1 72	4	2	6,742 32	4,381 90
23. Weisenberg township, ..	11	7	4	7	47 50	40 00	132	134	209	95	2 13	5.5	.....	3,464 96	2,096 48
24. Whitehall township, ...	38	9	14	24	63 43	52 87	658	684	1,068	93	2 12	4	2	25,420 77	8,553 74
25. Whitehall, North, twp.	19	7	13	6	49 15	46 33	305	220	458	91	1 14	3	.....	7,069 49	3,645 22
26. Whitehall, South, twp.	15	7	8	7	48 12	48 10	273	237	355	91	2 35	3	1	6,650 07	2,579 49
	474	8.51	194	301	\$59 99	\$48 40	9,327	9,001	15,264	92	\$2 03	4.5	.73	\$331,539 77	\$106,176 99

# SCHOOL STATISTICS OF LEHIGH COUNTY, JULY 1, 1912.

DISTRICTS.	Schools.	Teachers.		Pupils.		State appropriation.	Total receipts.	Total expenditures.
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			
City—								
Allentown, .....	163	32	148	3,663	3,752	\$35,808	\$358,576	\$295,838
Boroughs—								
Catsaugua, .....	18	4	16	421	401	4,665	76,739	73,051
Coopersburg, .....	4	2	2	75	61	981	3,933	3,366
Coplay, .....	9	4	6	197	182	2,360	12,942	9,608
Emaus, .....	16	8	8	384	345	3,915	28,153	24,732
Fountain Hill, .....	5	1	4	110	111	1,115	6,594	5,758
Macungie, .....	3	1	2	55	62	658	2,677	2,643
Slatington, .....	29	5	18	481	414	5,126	24,701	22,498
S. Allentown, .....	8	3	6	171	171	1,811	26,113	26,113
W. Bethlehem, .....								
Townships—								
Hanover, .....	20	10	10	427	421	2,790	19,695	19,416
Heidelberg, .....	9	8	1	190	124	1,581	4,208	4,112
Lowhill, .....	6	3	3	90	75	999	3,236	3,067
Lynn, .....	18	9	9	250	220	2,965	8,983	8,973
Macungie, Lower, .....	22	13	9	311	288	3,815	10,594	10,146
Macungie, Upper, .....	15	9	6	218	172	2,990	13,406	13,252
Millford, Lower, .....	11	6	5	139	106	1,659	6,466	4,811
Millford, Upper, .....	13	6	7	195	187	2,456	6,683	6,662
Salisbury, .....	12	6	6	318	322	2,959	9,697	9,443
Saucon, Upper, .....	19	6	6	238	192	2,603	6,881	6,881
Washington, .....	12	12	7	307	530	3,825	23,612	14,341
Wolfesburg, .....	11	6	5	122	131	2,002	6,215	5,257
Whitehall, .....	44	12	33	800	812	7,683	41,009	40,910
Whitehall, North, .....	19	12	7	286	291	3,417	12,864	10,572
Whitehall, South, .....	18	9	8	223	244	2,520	7,625	7,589
	247	127	121	4,069	3,905	\$14,164	\$200,393	\$165,507
	494	187	330	9,640	9,411	\$100,690	\$721,812	\$629,530

Since no senior high school existed in the township until quite recently, students were given the choice of attending junior and senior high school in Allentown or Bethlehem.

In Allentown most attended Central Junior High School and William Allen Senior High School. This was subject to change from school term to school term depending on which junior high had room for the township students.

The school board paid for tuition and transportation. Transportation was by the train or trolley depending where you lived. Those living near the train went to school in Bethlehem, while those near the trolley line went to school in Allentown. Students presented themselves at the home of Preston Lichtenwalner who gave each a monthly supply of trolley tickets. Those taking the train paid the \$6.00 plus per month and received reimbursement later.

Some of the "students" went on to become teachers in the township:

Mrs. Mary Gross — Yoder's; Center Valley  
Miss Wentz — Center Valley  
Mrs. Laubach — Lanark  
Mr. Sloyer — Blue Church; Hartman's  
Mr. Frank Dietz — Locust Valley; Washington; Hartman's  
Lloyd Bergenstock — Blue Church; Center Valley  
Elsie Miller Gruver — Locust Valley; Washington  
George Trexler — Center Valley; Lanark  
Wilson Wimmer — Center Valley  
John Wimmer — Friedensville  
Adelaid Mullen — Locust Valley; Friedensville; Lanark

Like so many others of her time, Miss Mullen was 16 years old when she began her teaching career ---- only slightly older than some of her students. She attended Kutztown Normal School and in

the summer continued her education. (This practice was not unusual among teachers from this area.)

These teachers were expected to be janitors also. With help from their students, they made the fire, carried coal from the cellar, took care of the fires when school was not in session and were responsible for the care of the out-houses.

The school day lasted from 8:30 to 3:30; and, the school year from 8-9 months. They were paid \$90-\$100 per month during the months they taught. There was no pay during the summer vacation period.

Today, of course, township students attend Hopewell Elementary School and Southern Lehigh High School.

#### ALLENTOWN COLLEGE OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales is a four year liberal arts college which grants the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science degrees. It is located in the midst of the farms and woods of Southern Lehigh. It is the only Catholic college in the Allentown — Bethlehem — Easton area. The student enrollment is approximately 700, with a faculty of 50.

In 1961 the Most Reverend Joseph McShea, Bishop of Allentown, invited the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales to establish the Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales.

Planning for the new college began in April 1962, with the expectation that classes would start in Sept., 1965. A plot of ground containing 300 acres was purchased in Center Valley, Pa. The charter for the college, with full power to award both Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees, was granted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on May 27, 1964. Classes for the freshmen began in September, 1965. The college was fully accredited by the Middle States Association during the 1969-70 academic year; and in September, 1970, became co-educational.

Allentown college may confer degrees in any of the following areas: biology, chemistry, economics, English, history, mathematics, modern languages, nursing, psychology, politics, theatre and speech, and theology.

Preprofessional courses of concentration are also offered in: prelaw, premedicine, pre dentistry, teacher training, and social welfare.

Allentown college also affords its students the opportunity to study abroad during the summer or academic year to supplement the course of study offered at this college. The college is a participating member of the LVAIC Foreign Study Programs and the American Institute for Foreign Study.

Both the students and faculty of Allentown College demonstrate concern for world affairs. During 1975, 20 young men and women from Vietnam were accepted as students at the College. These students escaped from Vietnam when Siagon surrendered to the Communists. Allentown College was the only college in the Lehigh Valley area to accept such a large number of Vietnamese students.

#### ASSUMPTION BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Assumption BVM Elementary School was established in 1968. It is located in Colesville near the Assumption BVM Church. Students from first through eighth grade are enrolled here. The 1976 eighth grade graduating class is the first class to have completed all eight grades at the school.

As a Bicentennial activity, the seventh and eighth grade classes of Assumption school worked together to preserve a cemetery which was more than 100 years old.

The cemetery is located at the end of Oakhurst Drive and the Old Bethlehem Pike. It was originally owned by the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Friedensville. When this congregation disbanded, the cemetery became the property of the Philadelphia Annual Conference

of the Methodist Church. Father James Hanlon purchased the land containing the cemetery in 1963.

Some of the tombstones in the cemetery date back to 1842. Markers for the graves of several of the trustees of the original church may also be found here. The graves of such people as Thomas Jackson, Henry Clemens, Samuel Adams, and Nathan Mills are located in the cemetery.

They were able to trace only one of the markers . . . . . one belonging to Mary Jane Bennett. Her grandson, an elderly gentleman from Bethlehem told them that Mrs. Bennett came to Friedensville from Surrey England as a young girl. Many of the markers were for young women and children. There was a total of ten stones.

Through a great deal of hard work, the students of Assumption school have transformed this overgrown cemetery into something they can be proud of.

It should be noted that this project was called to the attention of the Bicentennial Committee by Susan Knouse of Assumption School and their work was described by Mary Alice White.



A rare picture showing the Locust Valley School in the early 1900's. The school teacher was Adelaide Mullen. Note the picturesque settings, it must have been difficult to concentrate on studies with such attractive landscape.



St. Paul's (Blue Church) School House ..... located off Blue Church Road to the rear of church. The building, built in 1867, is still standing.



On Limeport Pike you can see the old Dillinger's School House; it is in close proximity to Zapack's Mill.



The illustration is of Washington School, currently situated within the boundaries of the Saucon Valley Golf Course.





Lanark School: This view shows the front of the school house which faces Saucon Valley Road West. The building is still standing and is currently used as a private residence. The tower section has been removed. This picture is unusual in the grouping of the children and the fact that it was a postcard. Circa: early 1920's.



The Old Standard School (oft times referred to as Seider's School) is still standing; the building is on Limeport Pike at the intersection of Chestnut Hill Road. It is now a private residence.



Prior to 1920 - Locust Valley School - Another one-room school house located at the T-intersection of Blue Church Road and Beverly Hills Road.

Left to Right:

1st Row- Raymond Ruth, Francis Engler, Henry Weider

2nd Row- E. Ruth, B. Hersh, E. Hersh, E. Reinhard, E. Weider, V. Hollowell, V. Weider, E. Weider, Elsie Schoenberger, E. Wambold

3rd Row- D. Wambold, F. Hersh, L. Grube, Q. Klotz, E. Reinhard, R. Reinhard, R. Yoder, Teacher: F. S. Dietz

4th Row- C. Ruth, W. Carl, John Anthony, C. Anthony, C. Engler, C. Rothrock, P. Reinhard, E. Grube, H. Carl



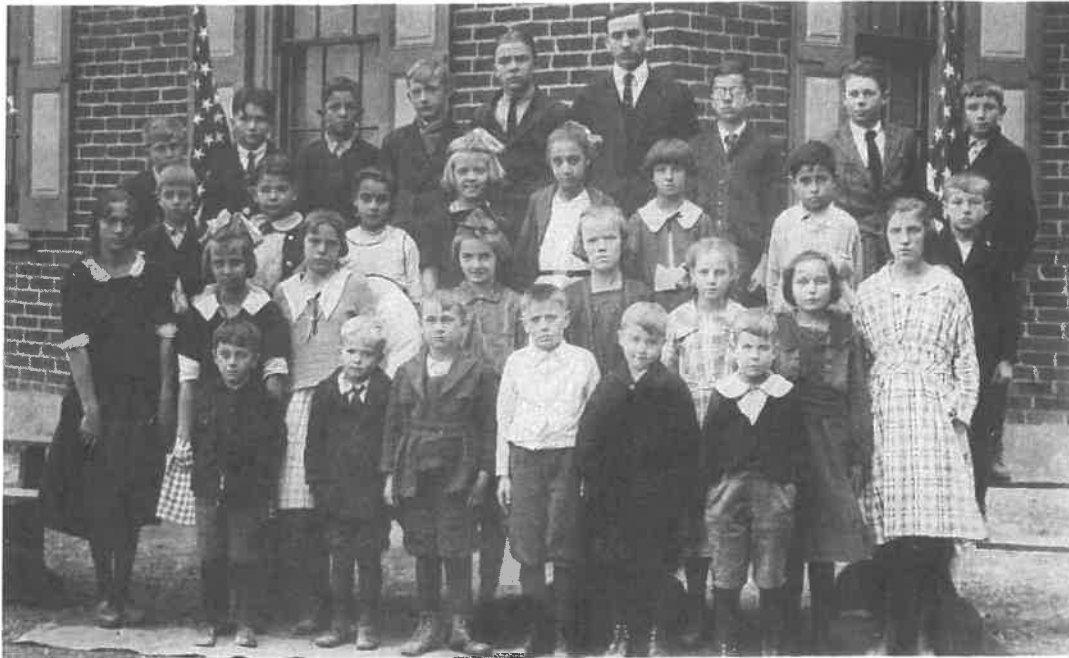
Prior to 1920 - Once Again - The Locust Valley School

Left to Right:

1st Row- F. Engler, E. Anthony, R. Anthofer, L. Hersh

2nd Row- A. Anthofer, M. Hallowell, S. Herman, B. Brown, E. Wambold, A. Reinhard, A. Stauffer

3rd Row- C. Nolt, E. Grube, Elsie Schoenenberger, B. Hersh, Teacher: E. Marion Ott, E. Reinhard, E. Hersh, L. Grube, R. Brown, W. Carl



Locust Valley School (1922-1923)

Left to Right:

- 1st Row- Allen Weil, D. Santee, E. Weil, L. Hersh, T. Santee, W. Hunsicker  
 2nd Row- Elsie Schoenenberger, H. Santee, B. Brown, N. Benner, M. Hallowell, A. Hassler,  
 S. Wiktor, E. Wambold  
 3rd Row- E. Hassler, G. McDonell, V. Derr, E. Santee, S. Derr, H. Palmer, R. Deily,  
 J. Hallowell  
 4th Row- P. Wambold, B. DeNeen, Y. Palmer, F. Engler, W. Carl, Teacher: R. M. Deily,  
 R. Wimmer, C. Nolt, W. Hassler



Hartman's School - Class of 1926 (Left to Right:)

- 1st Row- John Stahler, unidentified, Fred Stahler, Robert Benchini, Charles Arnold, Joseph Matosek,  
 Eugene Norwood, Edward Benchini, unidentified, Wilbert Arnold, Roy Clewell  
 2nd Row- Edward Wimmer, James Wiend, Lucille Young, Julia Ozokusky, Margaret Tanser, Teacher:  
 Charles Wimmer, Bertha Matosek, Emily Missouri, Martha Miller, Dorothy Gerlach, Edgar  
 Norwood  
 3rd Row- Elemia Hartman, Grace Reiss, Katie Matosek, Hilda Norwood, Sally Young, Anna Zakusky,  
 Arthur Zeiner, Paul Kohler  
 4th Row- Joseph Wieand, Douglas Norwood, Robert Arnold, Paul Young, Paul Benchini, Walter  
 Zakusky, Harry Clewell, Maynard Zeiner, Andrew Zakusky

We would like to point to our readers that dashing, debonair young teacher in this picture, Charles Wimmer, was the author of our chapter on Spring Valley. Of additional interest is the fact that Charlie and his wife celebrated their Fiftieth wedding anniversary in June of the Bicentennial Year.



Yoder's School - Class of 1908 (Left to Right:)

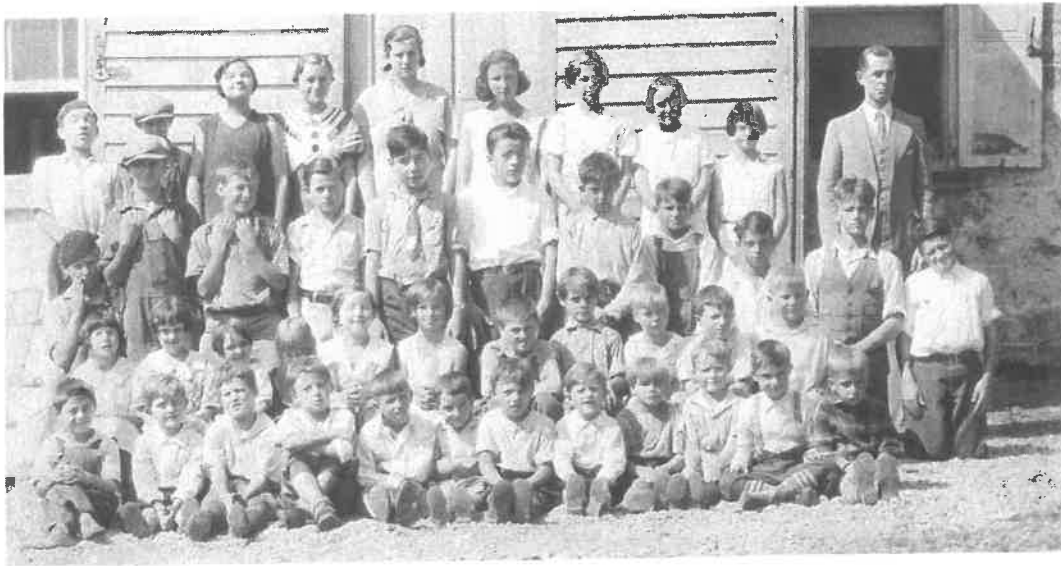
- 1st Row- Elmer Steyer, Harvey Beahn, Willie Coyne  
 2nd Row- Warren Mohr, Norman Weierbach, Arthur Landis, Paul Beahn, Willie Landis, Wilmer Beahn, Elton Sterner, Warren Gross, Robert Mohr, Ernest Landis, Eugene Bartholomew, Sam Steyer  
 3rd Row- Raymond Gross, Lillie Clymer, Martha Weirbach, Lillian Landis, Emma Koch, Ada Algart, Martha Landis, Mildred Landis, Anna Coyne, Edna Cressman, Minnie Fehenl, Carrie Frank-enfield, William Moats  
 4th Row- Teacher: William Nace, Oscar Gross, Oscar Jacoby, Charles Mohr, Clarence Cressman, Harry Beahn, Charles Gross, Emma Moats, Alice Landis, William Yeakel  
 5th Row- Paul Weierbach, William Yoder, Norman Clymer, Warren Cressman, Clarence Seifert, Elmer Jacoby, Annie Cressman, Orpha Landis, Minnie Harr



St. Paul's (Blue Church) School - 1929-1930 (This Picture shows the entire group of pupils, covering all grades. Remember this was still a one-room school house.)

Left to Right:

- 1st Row- David Young, Harold Young, Joseph Schwetzer, Franklin Ohl, Stanley Dankel, Joseph Ernst, Wilbur Schmoyer.  
 2nd Row- Mae Moyer, Dorothy Snyder, Ruby Young, Angela Madle, Grace Ernst, Eva Vanim, Lovonda Leh, Margaret Madle, Marjorie Ohl  
 3rd Row- Teacher: Charles Ott, Anna Kemmerer, Helen Madle, Betty Hefelfinger, Annie Vanim, Edwin Schmoyer, Alfred Vanim  
 4th Row- William Madle, Elwood Schmoyer, Frank Madle, Willis Brinker, Earl Ohl, Francis Snyder, Claude Hunsicker



St. Paul's (Blue Church) School - 1933-1934 (Once again, remember this is a one-room school house.)

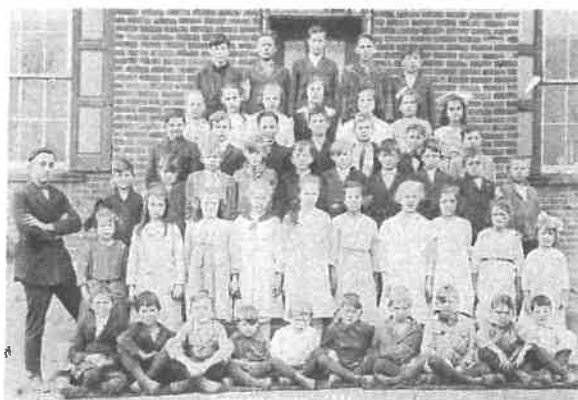
Left to Right:

- 1st Row- Peter Vanim, Lynford Schaffer, Robert Ackerman, Raymond Schaffer, Alfred Chapkovich, Arthur Kemmerer, Clark Schaffer, Clyde Schaffer, Daniel Ohl, Robert Lorraine, Walter Young, John Muth
- 2nd Row- Lillian Benkinney, Nina Schmoyer, Alma Vanim, Alverna Leh, Margaret Schuler, Angela Madle, Wilbur Schmoyer, Franklin Ohl, Alfred Madle, Bruno Carrer, Robert Muth
- 3rd Row- Harold Young, Earl Ackerman, David Young, Reuben Schaffer, Willis Brinker, Paul Schuler, Raymond Miller, William Chapkovich, Earl Ohl, Andrew Chapkovich, Stanley Dankel
- 4th Row- Lino Carrer, Willis Ackerman, Mae Moyer, Eva Vanim, Betty Hefelfinger, Lovonda Leh, Margaret Madle, Ruby Young, Marjorie Ohl, Teacher: Lloyd Bergenstock



Blue Church School - 1911 (Left to Right:)

- 1st Row- Edwin Bauder, Harold Brinker, Harry Walter, Theodore Ohl, Arthur Brinker, Leon Kemmerer
- 2nd Row- William Kemmerer, Miriam BenKinney, Frances Weierbach, Mary Kemmerer, Estella Ohl, Elva Greenawalt, Viola Ohl, George BenKenney
- 3rd Row- Mark Kemmerer, Paul Young, Abbie Krise, Lillian Ohl, Annie Mumbauer, Verna Kemmerer, Helen Groman, Sylvanus Kline - Teacher
- 4th Row- John Pospichil, Lawrence BenKinney, Meda Young, Addie Mumbauer, Bertha Kramer, Mabel Young, Helen Beck, Mabel Kramer



Standard School - Class of 1921 (Left to Right:)

- 1st Row- Paul Heyer, Albert Laub, Lovine Schaffer, Arthur Lichtenwalner, Paul Ackerman, Franklin Lichtenwalner, Clyde Laub, John Maitz, William Maitz, Raymond Hartman  
 2nd Row- Helen Ackerman, Julia Berghold, Mary Knappenberger, Beulah Grube, Lillian Hartman, Emily Laub, Ruth Riegner, Frances Schaffer, Jennie Sennetti, Agnes Schwartz  
 3rd Row- Teacher: Nevin Haas, Henry Schwartz, George Lichtenwalner, Paul Grube, Elmer Knerr, William Ackerman, Walter Grube, Charles Schaffer, Wilson Lichtenwalner, William Laub, Robert Gessner  
 4th Row- Robert Moyer, Harold Painter, Paul Reinhard, Earl Laub, George Esterly, Marcus Heyer, Roy Schaffer  
 5th Row- Lillian Gessner, Eva Heyer, Ida Lichtenwalner, Gladys Sell, Sally Schantzenbach, Anna Moyer, Helen Schwartz  
 6th Row- Theodore Gessner, Arthur Knappenberger, William Grube, Raymond Heyer, Ralph Grube



Center Valley School - 1913 (Left to Right:)

- 1st Row- Rudy Weihel, Stille Bauder, Alton Schaffer, unidentified, Russell Wilt, Wilbur Sordon, ? Landis, Henry Landis, unidentified  
 2nd Row- ? Bauder, Horace Beechecker, Kathleen Mullen, Alma Kilheffner, Lillian Loux, ? Yeager, Isabelle Boehm, Leanna Hartman, ? Yeager, ? Yeager, Grace Hildebeitel, Mildred Wilt.  
 3rd Row- Charles Beihn - Teacher, Bertha Hottenstein, Eva Yeager, Prudence Apple, Myrtle Schaffer, Edna Steinmetz, unidentified, Grace Bauder, Alta Jones, unidentified, ? Steinmetz, ? Steinmetz





Chapel School - Center Valley - 1921 (Left to Right:)

- 1st Row- Abe Linderman, Horace Bauder, George Millington, Theodore Millington, Albino Maule, George Biery, Robert Berger, Russell Reichard, Kenneth Peters  
 2nd Row- unidentified, Wrela Kuhns, Mabel Meyers, Mildred Hardcastle, Anita Piece, Matilda Breish, Clara Fenstermaker, Elsie Breisch, Alma Kilheffner  
 3rd Row- Rev. Rothermal - Teacher, Alma Reichard, Alma Gumm, Florence Ritter, Kathleen Mullen, Lillian Loux, Carrie Duru, Isabelle Boehm, Emily Yeager, Hilda Walner  
 4th Row- Franklin Lichtenwalner, ? Maule, Kenneth McNutt, Earl Feastermaker, Conrad Beck, Russell Wilt, Edward Walner, Charles Gross, Steven Savitz, John Sabler



Penn School - 1910 (Left to Right:)

- 1st Row- Theodore Campbell, Henry Landis, unidentified, Warren Breisch, unidentified, Wallace Reinhard, Carl Beck, Albert Yeakel, William Campbell, Henry Breisch, Arthur Ott, Herbert Sell  
 2nd Row- James Geissinger, Edna Beck, Perma Beck, Edna Minninger, Gertrude Kulp, Verna Fenstermaker, Eva Yeakel, Katie Yeakel, Minnie Ritter, Marian Ritter, Gertrude Campbell, ? Cressman, Edna Ruth  
 3rd Row- Robert Landis, Alma Breisch, Edna Weaver, Margaret Gross, Cora Stettlee, Irma Fenstermaker, Marian Ott, Katie Landis, Ruth Geissinger, Hannah Landis, Stanley Beck, Teacher - George Patrick  
 4th Row- George Gehman, Wilmer Fenstermaker, George Nessinger, Hilton Mullin, George Lerch, Elmer Arn, Elton Schleifer, Harvey Freed, unidentified, George Young

## TAVERNS AND HOTELS

by Fran Petro

"Tavern", "Inn", "Hostelry", "Public House", ----- whatever the name, it was a way of life during the growing years of the colony. We shall use the term "Tavern" in all future references as that term is the one most commonly found in the early deeds.

Exactly what is a Tavern? During the 1700's and the early 1800's it was a place where weary travelers could stop for refreshments and lodgings-----good or bad. The triple AAA rating system was via word of mouth in those days!! Accommodations?? They certainly were not as we demand! Private room with bath ---- Hah!! More likely it was one common bed shared by complete strangers and a wash bowl for indulgences.

It was a way of life completely unfamiliar to our generation! But, regardless of what to us may have been inconveniences, the Tavern offered its guests many advantages. It was one of the main sources for news; it was at the taverns where the Indian uprisings were discussed; it was where the neighbors heatedly discussed imposing tax increases; it was here that news of new settlers to the area were discussed; it was here the plans for the future growth of the township were discussed. These are but a few of the Topics covered in the interaction of people who met under this roof.

Needless to say, the Tavern was used not only by weary travelers but also by the local populace. What better way to hear the news of distant places than by talking to the travelers!

On the more heavily traveled roads it was not uncommon to encounter Taverns within seven miles of each other. Just as with any other business, prosperity brought competition. And, according to early diaries, the taverns of the Germans were the most desirable. At least the sheets were changed weekly and the German housewives were known for their cooking.

A 1773 traveler from Bethlehem to Reading wrote of one country inn, "It was the dirtiest house, without exception in the Province, every room swarming with Buggs . . . If I did not pray all Night, I surely watched, as sleep was entirely banished from my Eyes, tho I enclosed myself in a Circle of Candle grease it did not save me from their devourations."

Evidently, this was one InnKeeper who was not aware that "one of the incidents of an InnKeeper is that he is bound to open his house to all travelers without distinction and has not opt to refuse refreshments, shelter, and accommodations of a *suitable* nature".

Suitable!! Hardly. Fortunately, the taverns run in our township did not incur the same antagonistic comments.

To find documentation on all early taverns is almost impossible. Based on the research done, we will first offer you a listing, by date, of those people who received tavern licenses; or who, according to census lists, were listed as innkeepers. Then, we will document the history of the earlier taverns as far as known.

1745 George Bachman  
1746 David Owen  
1763 Owen and Bachman  
1772 Jacob Ziegenfuss  
1778 William Krenius  
1778 John Stahl  
1778 Nicholas Kooken

1778 Erhard Weber  
1786 Daniel Kooper  
1786 Peter Lin  
1786 John Stahl  
1788 Daniel Kooper  
1788 John Stahl

Those dates reflected above were published lists from various historical summations of tavern owners; whether the owners of the tavern are one and the same is questionable.

We have discovered that there was a good deal of intermarriage between families engaged in the tavern business; and many times a son-in-law later became involved in the tavern.



The locations of John Stahl's Tavern and William Krenius' has not come to light. It is possible that Krenius was in business for only a short period of time; or, perhaps, was running one of the taverns already in existence.

One thing we would like to point out --- during the mid 1800's it was not uncommon to have taverns change hands as often as every two years. While property deeds do indicate the ownership of the tavern, it may not indicate the name of the Tavern Keeper.

In reminiscing with some of the township elders the names of the people associated with the taverns has been the name of the Tavern Keeper; and, in a few instances it was not the owner of the property.

And so, we would like to offer to you, the histories of our taverns ---- some date back to the early 1700's and some that are still being operated today.

#### "DER SIEBENSTERN" (The Seven Stars)

According to various historical publications, George Bachman in 1745 ran a hotel --- "Der Siebenstern" (The Seven Stars) --- in the area today known as Coopersburg, to the north of the present Coopersburg Fire Company Social Hall. Although 1745 is the date usually used, we have seen other records indicating the date may have been as early as 1743 or as late as 1750.

Bachman, incidentally, was one of the individuals who signed the petition for the organization of the township. He was able to foresee the need for a tavern on the road from Bethlehem to Philadelphia and the tavern continued in use until 1820, although it was later run by one of his sons.

Milton Cooper, in his diary which was written in 1896, offers us the following recollections of the old Tavern ---; "The old tavern was built about 1740 of squared logs lathed and plastered on the outside with a yellow hue, with white lines drawn to imitate stone blocks. It stood North of the present hotel but facing more to the North with an open driveway around it. The sign (moon and 7 stars) stood in the middle of the public road between the tavern and shed. . . . it was taken down about 1826 and replaced by another of more modern construction. A narrow porch extended along the front of the tavern with large flat stones for a floor, it was quite a large house."

Further insight into this tavern was offered by Frank B. Heller in his 1881 history of Coopersburg. "The old hotel was known as the Seven Star, or in the vernacular of the place, "Der Siebenstern," a crescent surrounded by seven stars appearing on the sign: the bar-room was furnished with small tables arranged along the walls, and on these, wine, which was then cheap, was served by the pint and half-pint; later, whiskey and other strong drinks came into use and these were served by the gill. The hotel and store were open every day of the week, and the business, at the store especially, was heavier on Sunday than on any other day."

Tax records indicate that Daniel Cooper also ran the tavern "Der Siebenstern" and probably occupied the site until the early 1800's when it was sold to the Honorable Joseph Fry, Jr. Fry soon added a distillery to the east of the hotel, a whiskey warehouse made out of stone, and a store.

In 1829 Peter Cooper, the younger, built a stone hotel slightly to the south of the Old Tavern. (The date the old hotel was torn down varies between the 1820's-1840's) The Eagle Hotel was the name given to this new structure and shortly after its construction it was purchased by Joseph Doerly.

Once again, in 1868, the name was changed --- this time to "The Barron House"; presumably after the new owner --- David Barron. It continued to be operative until 1941 when it was purchased by the Coopersburg Fire Company.

The only local competition that the Eagle Hotel encountered was when the Baldwin House was built around 1865. The difference in locality and the increased population of the times afforded both hotels a profitable operation.

## DAVID OWEN'S TAVERN

We do know that on June 12, 1746 David Owen was granted a license to open a tavern; in 1750 the license was regranted. The exact location of this building has not been determined but it is assumed that tenant house on the Frank B. Heller farm (now owned by Toth's) is the location of this ancient hostelry. (The Toth is house can be seen to your left as you travel the Limeport Pike in the direction of Limeport after passing the intersection of Chestnut Hill Road and Limeport Pike.)

The 1798 census listed Margaret Owen (wife of David Owen, Sr.) as living on David's estate in a two story stone house (27' x 19') ; presumably, this was the Old Tavern.

Interestingly, the name of Jacob Ziegenfush (Ziegenfuss) appeared as an Innkeeper in 1772 and paid taxes on 200 acres of land . . . . the same amount of land owned by Owen. When David Owen's will was probated in 1790, his children were listed. One of his daughters, Abigail was married to Jacob Ziegenfuss; thus, we can assume that Ziegenfuss was keeping the Tavern at Owens in this time period. How long the Tavern was in operation is not known; presumably, the business ceased after the Revolution.

Toth's purchased this 37 acre property in 1929 from Harry Koczirka who bought the property in 1926 from Nellie and Isadore Selig. Selig's deed refers to the acreage as being part of Heller's Homestead. (Nellie Selig was Frank B. Heller's daughter and upon his death, in 1925, she inherited the tract.)

The acquisition of this property by Frank Heller occurred in 1896 upon the death of his father, Abraham. As normal in this time period, Abraham had acquired the property from his father, Paul, in 1850. Paul Heller purchased the property in 1832 from Samuel Hafs, Minister of the Gospel, and his wife, Elizabeth. Elizabeth Hafs was the granddaughter of David Owen!!

## HELLER'S TAVERN:

According to the Lehigh County History, it was at this time (1800) that the Hotel was started at Heller's Tavern, later Knerr's Store, on Lanark Road. Supposedly, a Mr. Keimley opened the Hotel and Peter Knepley operated a store in the hall of the Hotel.

An 1801 deed on file at the Allentown Court House stated that John Keimly sold "38 acres of land bordering the Great Road leading to Philadelphia for the sum of 800 Pounds" to Jacob Gangeware of Lower Saucon Township. The deed further refers to a "certain messuage and tract of land"; presumably, the aforementioned Hotel as 800 Pounds would have been too much money to pay for only 38 acres of land. (The 1798 tax list described this property as a two story stone structure, 35' x 30', with a log barn.)

Interestingly, Keimly's occupation is listed as a physician and Gangeware is listed as being a storekeeper; the deed further states that Keimly bought this property on March 11, 1799 from Jacob Hafs. Hafs bought the property in 1792 from John Bruner, Blacksmith, of New Britian Township in Bucks County.

The aforementioned Jacob Gangeware was Peter Knepley's uncle. This could account for the referral to Knepley running a store in the hall; perhaps, he also ran the tavern as it was a common practice for the same individual to run the tavern and the store. What lead us to this conclusion was the following bond on file at the Easton Courthouse:

"Know all men by these present that we . . . . Peter Knepley, Daniel Cooper, and Peter Nurgeper *InnKeepers* all of the County of Northampton, etc."

This bond was posted by Knepley when he was elected the Coroner for the County of Northampton in 1802. Shortly thereafter Peter built an addition to his home to house the store and in the years to follow became an active merchant, locally as well as in Philadelphia.

Tobias Heller in 1850 was listed as an InnKeeper at Heller's Tavern; he was succeeded by Amost

Heller in the late 1880's; then by Eddie Miller; and then Bill Trumbore (leading to this property being known as Trumbauer's Hotel in the 1914 Lehigh County History Book). Later, Alton Knerr bought the property and ran a store and an auction house for many years. The building now houses a Real Estate Office and apartments.

#### JOHN STAHL'S TAVERN:

Although we have not been successful in locating this tavern, it would be most exciting to do so! Stahl was a captain during the Revolution and was still in the Township when the 1790 census was taken.

#### COLESVILLE HOTEL:

Philip Bahl, in 1815, opened a tavern in the stone building currently known as the "Colesville Hotel" in the village of the same name. As listed in the 1798 tax list, the property consisted of 254 acres with a two story stone building (26' x 36'), a stable and a stone barn. Philip's father, Col. John Bahl was instrumental in building the Friedensville Church and was buried in the old cemetery.

Currently, the Colesville Hotel is owned by Margaret and Richard Reisinger who have run this establishment for a quarter of a century. Prior to this, the hotel was run by Reisinger's father-in-law, Samuel Maitz (he bought it in 1924). The big Saturday night treat for the children in the Colesville area was to visit Mr. Maitz for soda and pretzels.

Earlier the property had belonged to Theodore and Augusta Geinaz, they had purchased it from the George Bailey Estate. Bailey had bought the property in 1909 from William and Minnie Bachman. Bachman was from Lower Saucon and this deed referenced the property as . . . 35 acres with a Hotel Stand. It was during this time that the Tavern was known as "Barry's County Line Hotel".

Bachman had purchased the property from Sarah MacKlin 1886 and she had purchased it from the Charles Weirbach estate. (This deed transaction referred to "a hotel stand, two houses, outhouse, a stable, a barn and sundry out buildings".)

Seventeen years earlier, in 1869, Charles Weirbach purchased the property from Sarah Cole, the wife of Peter Cole. The Cole family acquired the property in 1857 and supposedly the name of Colesville was derived from the owners of the Tavern. Since the 1862 Lehigh County Map described this property as Cole's Tavern, we can assume the story is correct.

Peter's brother, John Cole (Kohl), aided in the management of this tavern. Family histories relate that he operated the hotel between 1860 and 1869 and also worked in the Friedensville Zinc Mines. An ore lease in the Lehigh County Court House indicated that John Cole and Adam Markle took an ore lease, in 1869, on 17 acres of Herman Yeager's land:

"for the term of 20 years the exclusive right to all the iron, or any other ore. The property adjoined the lands of Henry Yeager, Kemmerer, Yobst, Apple and Company, Thomas Reichard and a public lane leading from the Friedensville and Allentown Road to the Center Valley and Allentown Road."

"No ore shall be raised from said premises nearer than 10 rods of any of the buildings thereon with all the necessary rights and privileges of searching for, exploring, excavating, digging and carrying away including roads from and to any part thereof to the public highways at all times and all seasons and shall have the right of washing on said premises such ore as shall require washing and the right and privilege of sinking and upholding one or more wells on said premises and use any creek or other surface water running through the land for said purposes."

Evidently, John was a very enterprising individual and in 1868, prior to the time when his sister-in-law (Sarah Cole) sold the tavern, John had purchased the Friedensville Hotel. When his daughter was about to be married to William Yellis, William's stepmother raised quite serious objections. "She

was of the type of crazy clean and held the opinion that anyone reared in a hotel was not clean! On the wedding day, William's stepmother attended the reception at the hotel; and, when she saw how clean the hotel stove was, she gave her blessing to the marriage."

The aforementioned John Kohl was the grandfather of John Young Kohl, former editor of the Sunday Call Chronicle, who after his retirement continued to contribute to the Sunday Call-Chronicle via his column "This and That".

When Peter Cole bought the Tavern Stand in 1857, it was from Jack Ueberoth. Ueberoth represented the creditors of Robert and Hester Laubach . . . . the actual owners of the tavern.

1854 . . . . . Laubach purchased the property from Jacob Berkstrazer  
1848 . . . . . Jacob Berkstrazer procured the property from Samuel Schneider  
1840 . . . . . Schneider bought the property from Jacob Schnyder  
1836 . . . . . Jacob Schnyder bought the property from Peter Cooper, who was acting as an assignee of Peter and Lydia Yeager.

Here our search ended as no other deed references were mentioned. In checking the Miscellaneous Dockets we discovered Peter Yeager was listed as a "Merchant" and that Peter Yeager had purchased the 36 acres and the Tavern Stand in 1830 from Abraham Gangwere and his wife, Christiana.

The Colesville Hotel has the distinction of being the only hotel on which every deed transaction lists a "Tavern Stand"; thereby indicating that some of the other taverns were discontinued and used as private dwellings for short periods of time.

Perhaps one of the most fascinating points about this hotel, other than the fact that it has been consistently run as a tavern since the early 1800's, is that the County Line runs through the Bar Room. Mr. Ohl's book referred to the county line division most charmingly:

"The county line runs through the bar room cata-corner like. Therefore, you can stand in Upper Saucon and pour down the fire water into yourself if you have the price, while the dispenser of the *bug juice* stands in Lower Saucon!"

#### SEIDER'S HOTEL:

Between 1800 and 1830 a tavern was operated on Lanark Road, then known as the "Great Philadelphia Road", by Jacob Seider, son of Abraham Seider. In 1798 Abraham owned a two story stone house, a one story log house, and a frame barn. Interestingly, this was one of only nine frame barns in the Township.

Coincidentally, Jacob married Catharine Cooper, from the family actively engaged in the tavern business since the mid 1700's. Two of Jacob's sons — Charles and Edward also ran hotels. Charles kept the hotel at Seidersville in Lower Saucon and Edward (whose wife was a Cooper) ran the hotel at Coopersburg and later the Hotel Allen in Allentown.

According to Ohl's History "Township elections were held at the hotel for many years". Whether this refers to the time when Seider ran the hotel or to the later era, when the Weidner family ran a summer resort, is not known. A "Summer Resort" is *not* the same thing as a hotel, or a tavern. During the hot summer months people from Philadelphia and other large cities would move their families to the country, to summer resorts like Weidner's. The guests would be provided with room and board; and, if they so chose, could aid in helping with any of the farm chores that needed "doing". Similar to our present day "camp"; an informal arrangement and a common practice during this era.

The large stone building was located on the left hand side of Lanark Road in Schnellman's Development. Today, a contemporary home sits on the same spot surrounded by the huge evergreens that once offered shade to the summer guests.

## CENTER VALLEY HOTELS:

When the hotel at Seiders closed, another one opened in Center Valley around 1831. Mr. Ohl stated that "the poling place was then moved to the Center Valley Hotel" operated by Mr. Ahlum and his wife (Jacob Seider's sister); thus, we have another example of the intermarriage of two families with identical business backgrounds.

The Grand Central Hotel was run, in 1848, by James Wilt (owned, however, by Michael Everhard of Allentown) and prior to this the Hotel was run by George Wetherhold. Due to translation difficulties incurred in the anglicization of Germanic names, could the owner of this Hotel have been Michael J. Eberhard??? And, if he was the owner, he was related to the Seiders and the Ahlums through his wife, Elizabeth . . . the only child of Matthias Knepley and Catharine (née Seider). Catharine was Mrs. Ahlum's sister as well as Jacob Seider's sister.

What we are trying to point out by this family genealogy is that Michael Eberhard received the financing for his hotel business through his wife's inheritance of the Knepley estate (which was considerable as the Knepleys were Merchants and involved in numerous business activities).

On the 1862 Lehigh County map the enlargement of the Center Valley area showed that the hotel was owned by M. Eberhard (note the spelling) and Wilt was the proprietor. The location of this Hotel was on Rt. #309, on the right side of the road, at the intersection with Rt. #378 . . . heading North.

After 1862, two other hotels were started. The first, the "BALD EAGLE" (built after 1876 by Joel Roth) was located on Station Avenue east of the railroad tracks; it was run by Mr. Hartman. In later years it was run by Mr. Fulmer (Hartman's son-in-law) and was known as Fulmer's Hotel. Although no longer used as a hotel, the building is still standing and is the private residence of the Gogler family.

Both the Grand Central Hotel and Fulmer's Hotel went out of business around the 1920's; the Grand was torn down when the highway was widened.

A few years after the Bald Eagle Hotel was built, another hotel was started that today is known as "THE WINDSOR". Originally, it was a wheelwright shop (built around 1878) by Jonathan Swartz and run by the Weaver Brothers. The Windsor continued to be used as a carriage factory until horses were replaced by iron and steel vehicles; without the need for carriage, the building was converted into a hotel and is still being operated as such. Today, it is Center Valley's oldest hotel.

## FRIEDENSVILLE HOTEL

Presumably, around 1845 this fine, old stone structure became a hotel; coinciding with the discovery of zinc. It would seem natural to start a tavern close to the mining operation as a business investment. In fact we have discovered that the structure (now known as The Inn of the Unicorn) had a tunnel leading from the basement to the Zinc Mine.

The Allentown Court House first refers to a Tavern on this site in an 1840 deed description. Philip and Nancy Person sold the "Tavern House" and seven acres of land to Jacob Weikel. This same deed indicated the property had been given to Maria Grim (wife of J. Yeager) by her father, Jacob Grim in 1839. The Yeagers, in 1839, sold the property to Philip Person.

Two years later (1842) Jacob Weikel, InnKeeper, and his wife Anna sold the "Tavern House", Meussuage or Tenement, and two tracts of land to Alexander Moritz, a millwright from Lower Saucon Township. After maintaining the tavern for two years, Alexander and Hannah Moritz sold the Tavern House and six acres of land (bordering the property of Jacob Hartman, Jacob Ueberoth, Joseph Diehl and Jacob Correll) to Herman Statiger in 1844. At the time of the sale Statiger, an InnKeeper, was a resident of Hatfield Township in Montgomery County.

Herman Stadiger (note the change in spelling) owned the property for 10 years and in 1854 sold it to Samuel Wetherill. Since Stadiger's name appeared on the 1850 census list as a Tavern Keeper, we assume he operated the Tavern continuously.

October 16, 1860 . . . . . Wetherhill Zinc Co. to Jacob G. Diehl  
 November 23, 1861 . . . . . Jacob & Sarah Diehl to Jesse Harwi  
 April 1, 1862 . . . . . Jesse Harwi to George W. Roth  
 March 22, 1866 . . . . . George & Emmalina Roth to John Wambold  
 April 2, 1868 . . . . . John & Sophia Wambold to John Kohl

Deed Book #41, page #309 (a deed for the sale of the property from John & Harriet Kohl to John Wambold on April 5, 1870) mentions the "Tavern Stand" plus two other buildings in the village of Friedensville and one acre of land. This same deed contains the following retention of mining rights and permissions:

"to enter with horses and carts to search for, dig, take and carry away all ores, minerals, and fossils for their own use and benefits; to dig shafts and air holes and construct galleries under said lands not less than 50 feet from the surface".

The tavern remained in the Wambold family until 1900. At that time Henry Wambold (who inherited the property from his father John) sold the one acre lot and "Tavern Stand" and two other buildings to George Washington Boehm. Boehm had been awarded the contract to haul the famous pump, the largest in the world . . . . . THE PRESIDENT . . . to the Friedensville Zinc Mine.

The tavern passed through many hands and is still operative today. The Inn of the Unicorn now offers French cuisine . . . quite a change from the fare the miners received!!!!

We have been told of the existence of one other tavern in the village of Friedensville. As it does not appear on the 1862 or the 1876 maps, we must assume that it came into being during the end of the 1800's; presumably, for the use of the miners and it was shut down during prohibition. (The brick building is currently being restored and is located near the Saucon Creek on the east side of the Old Bethlehem Pike.) Even today, the name of this establishment remains cloaked in obscurity!

## SPRING VALLEY HOTEL

The exact date for the establishment of the Hotel at this location is unknown. Since the 1862 Lehigh County Map does not show a hotel in the village, we assume that it was started a few years later. Ohl's History indicated that the hotel was operated by Moses Eisenhardt prior to 1870 and he continued to run this establishment until his retirement.

By searching the deeds in the Lehigh County Court House, we did discover that this area of Spring Valley was owned by John Weaver, who deeded the property to his son Thomas in 1864. The deed does not reference the hotel at this time. However, in 1919 the heirs of Thomas Weber (note the change in spelling from Weaver) sold to Ralph Fenstermacher: "all that certain Messuage, tenement, store property and tract of land and the SPRING VALLEY HOTEL property".

Lewis Kemmerer, in March of 1920, bought the tract from Ralph and Lydia Fenstermacher. An interesting side note is this deed mentions an adjoining tract of land that John E. Zerby, in 1912, sold to the Lieberman Brewing Company (they merged with the Daeufer Brewing Company in 1915). Why this new company, the Daeufer-Lieberman Brewing Company, wanted this particular tract is unknown. They owned, also, the adjacent stone quarry . . . . . all of which they sold, in 1919, to Kemmerer.

In 1946, Martha E. Kemmerer sold the property to Dezso and Yolan Pecsek. This deed covered the sale of "SPRING VALLEY HOUSE", including the Spring Valley Fish Pond. When Charlie Wimmer reminisced about the Spring Valley area during the early 1900's, he recalled that the hotel was operated by Lewis and Martha Kemmerer.

"The bar room was in the basement and contained an artesian spring which fed into small ponds . . . at that time they contained beautiful trout. I always went there for a drink of the best spring water and to watch the fish."

Mr. Ohl's history revealed that the hotel was operated, during 1940, by Mr. Sloyer. It is still operative today under the able direction of the Pecsek's; and, Mr. Pecsek informed us that the Bethlehem Steel Club had its origin here.

## LOCUST VALLEY

Once again we find a hotel in operation and documentation as to the exact date of opening is lacking. A long series of owners, from Samuel Weinberger to Charley Brinker, tried their hand at this business. The location of this Hotel (a stucco building) was directly across the street, on the corner, from Elmer Carl's store. Once owned by Frank Binder, the cattle dealer, it was sold to the Bagel's. Their son sold it to George Thomas IV. The building is in the process of being remodeled.

## OTHER HOTELS

During the period from 1900 to 1976 there have been additions to, and deletions from, the group constituting the "older taverns".

The Maples . . . . . (Run by Joe Mulusky, it is no longer standing but had been in the area of the Jehovah's Witness building. It was once used as a school.)

The Mod Mill. . . . . (Located in the center of the village of Center Valley, the building was removed with the expansion of Rt. #309. More information on this structure can be found in the chapter on mills.)

Flo's Place . . . . . (No longer in existence, this tavern was on the opposite corner of 309, across from the Idle Hour.)

Two taverns had been located near Lanark on Rt. #309. One was at the intersection of Saucon Valley Road and #309; the other was North of the intersection of Abbott Street and #309.

Steakmaster . . . . . Located on Rt. #309, this building used to house Jerry's Hideaway.

Heidelberg . . . . . This tavern is located north of Center Valley on the east side of Rt. #378.

Idle Hour. . . . . After passing through the village of Center Valley, this tavern can be found on Rt. #309 as you drive towards Coopersburg.

There is an old song that goes "There is a tavern in the town"; forgive the pun, but . . . . . "There WERE some TAVERNS in our TOWNSHIP"!!!!



The Maples . . . . . former location of a schoolhouse. The property was taken down to make way for the widening of Rt. 309. Its location was in the approximate area of the Jehovah's Witness.



Bald Eagle Hotel, W. W. Hartman proprietor ..... The building is still standing, on the east side of Station Avenue, in Center Valley, after you cross the railroad tracks. Today it is a private residence (the Gogler's). The building was built by Joel Roth around 1876 and went out of business in the 1920's.



Windsor Hotel ..... this is the only early hotel still in existence being used as a tavern. It was built in 1878 by Johnathon Swartz and originally was used as a carriage factory by the Weaver Brothers; then it was converted into a hotel in the early 1900's.

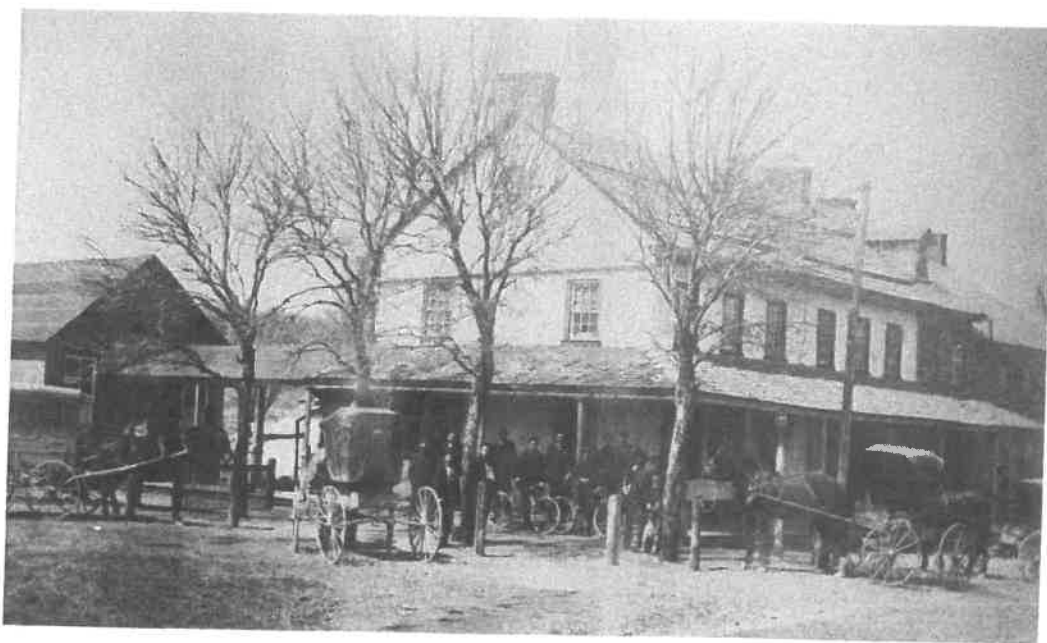




Center Valley Hotel ..... now demolished. The hotel, established in 1831, had been located on the intersection of Route 309 and Route 378 in Center Valley. This is an earlier picture taken before the full porch was added. James Wilt, proprietor can be faintly seen stenciled on the front of the building. It is assumed that the people in the picture represent customers of the establishment ..... I wonder, could we get this kind of a turnout from a modern tavern?



A later picture of the same hotel shown above. It was now known as the Grand Central Hotel. Note the addition of the full porch.



Friedensville Hotel ..... located in the village of Friedensville. During the initial mining boom in the late 1800's ..... a tunnel was made from the basement of this establishment into the Zinc Mines. If you look at the picture closely, you may be able to pick out George Washington Boehm ..... he received the contract to haul the pump known as The President to the Zinc Mines.



Another view of the same hostelry ..... today known as "L'Auberge de la Licorne", or The Inn of the Unicorn. In comparing the two pictures note the changes made over the years. The stucco has been removed to expose the fieldstone; the fireplace chimneys have been altered; the addition of the two story structure to the rear of the main building; the windows have been replaced; horsepower is still there but the chassis has really changed; and, then we have the sign of modern times ..... a TV antenna.



Colesville Hotel in the early 1900's; note the debonair rake leaning against the tree.



Another view of the Colesville Hotel taken earlier ..... if you look closely you can see the words "Barry's County Line Hotel" on the window.



Lanark Hotel ..... still standing on the intersection of Saucon Valley Road West and Lanark Road. To many local residents it is better known as Knerr's Store and it was one of the stops on the trolley line. Prior to the 1900's, it appears on early maps as "Heller's Tavern". Today it houses apartments and a real estate office.



Spring Valley Hotel as it appeared in the early 1900's. The sign has a picture of a "trout" and the proprietors name was L. M. Kemmerer.

## THE LIBERTY BELL ROUTE

By Betty Miller

With the arrival of Albert L. Johnson in Allentown from Cleveland, Ohio in 1890, Allentown and the Lehigh Valley became a traction battleground. He organized and became president of the Lehigh Valley Traction Company and successfully challenged the monopoly of the Allentown and Bethlehem Rapid Transit Company.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Johnson's next plan, after consolidating the independent local street railway companies with his organization, was to create two lengthy inter-urban routes, one from Allentown to Philadelphia and the second from Philadelphia to New York. However, Mr. Johnson's death on July 2, 1901 forecast his empire's eventual collapse. He was succeeded by Mr. Robert E. Wright, who, because of the company's financial status, cancelled the Philadelphia-New York division but approved completion of the Allentown-Philadelphia route. During March 1902, the Lehigh Valley Traction Company inaugurated inter-urban service between Allentown and Quakertown.<sup>2</sup>

With the collapse of the Johnson empire, the holdings were sold at public sale on June 13, 1905. The new owners formed the Lehigh Valley Transit Company in July 1905.<sup>3</sup>

While Mr. Johnson was still president, he chartered Allentown and Coopersburg Street Railway Company on September 8, 1899, and acquired operating privileges between Allentown and Coopersburg.<sup>4</sup> He also acquired Allentown and Coopersburg Turnpike, the most accessible route over Lehigh, or South, Mountain, at Summit Lawn, February 5, 1901. Allentown-Coopersburg service was inaugurated on December 19, 1901, with small single truck cars.<sup>5</sup>

On December 1, 1907 the Philadelphia Division of the Lehigh Valley Transit Company was advertised as Liberty Bell Route because at various distances between Erdenheim and Center Valley it paralleled the Bethlehem Pike over which patriots hauled the famous bell in 1777.<sup>6</sup>

Between 1908 and 1951 the transit company operated a door-to-door trolley freight service.

During the costly and extensive modernization program in 1910-1913, the trackage between Summit Lawn and Lanark was revised and relocated.<sup>7</sup>

In the mid-1920's the Liberty Bell Route again underwent alterations when privately owned automobiles initially competed seriously with public transportation. On September 2, 1925, new trackage along private right of way between Rosedale and a point located north of Center Valley was opened and the old route which followed the public highway between these points was abandoned.<sup>8</sup>

On Thursday, September 6, 1951, at 6:00 p.m. Lehigh Valley Transit Company announced the conversion of Liberty Bell Route railway service to autobus operation effective with the start of schedules on September 7, 1951.<sup>9</sup>

### THE 1000 SERIES INTERURBAN CARS

On February 5, 1939 a trial run of the new Liberty Bell Limited cars was conducted. Because these cars had originally been built for use in Ohio where the terrain is flat, they barely climbed

1. *History of Lehigh Valley Transit Company Railway Operations* ed. Randolph L. Kulp. p. 9

2. *Ibid.* p. 13

3. *Ibid.* p. 17

4. *Ibid.* p. 43

5. *Ibid.* p. 45

6. *The Lehigh Valley Transit Company's St. Louis Cars*. October 1961. Lehigh Valley Chapter National Railway Historical Society, Inc. p. 35.

7. *History of Lehigh Valley Transit Company Railway Operations*. p. 51

8. *Ibid.* p. 65

9. *Ibid.* p. 77

Lehigh, or South Mountain. Adjustments were made at Summit Lawn and the trip to Philadelphia was then completed without incident.<sup>10</sup>

Between 1913 and 1932, two-car trains operated between Allentown and Philadelphia and three-car trains operated between 1914 and 1935. A motorman and one conductor manned the two-car and three-car trains with the exception that a second conductor helped on the three-car train in ticket and fare collection between Allentown and Quakertown. Passengers for Philadelphia rode in the last car and those for station stops along the way rode in the first or second cars.<sup>11</sup>

### THE ST. LOUIS CARS

During the 1910 and 1913 rehabilitation program the trackage from Mountainville to Lanark was revised and relocated from roadside to private right of way; a track circuit block signal system was installed from Emaus (Emmaus) Junction to Brush Siding near Norristown; and unique waiting stations were constructed at Aineyville Junction and Colesville road.<sup>12</sup>

According to the History and Roster of the St. Louis Cars, these cars, and especially No. 176, were used for hauling.

"The 14th Street Shop in Allentown, circa 1910, rebuilt St. Louis car No. 176 as a combination passenger-baggage car. Revisions included removal of the side and first two double seats along the right side; removal of the first two windows and body sheathing and installation of a large doorway and sliding door; retention of smoking compartment partition; relocation of the stove to the left side corner at the vestibule partition; retention of toilet facilities at the left side No. 2 end; and installation of wooden bench type folding seats across the doorway in the baggage compartment for potential passenger accommodations. No. 176's varied baggage assignments at one time or another included hauling milk and newspapers along the new Liberty Bell Route and Wales Junction-Chestnut Hill trackage; after 800 Series limited cars had been introduced in 1912, hauling of trunks and luggage between Red Lion Junction and Quakertown business district; and for a brief time hauling of mail in both directions between various towns between Slatington and Bangor. Gracious division dispatchers frequently permitted employees to move personal household furnishings from one home to another in No. 176. Many people recognized No. 176 as the official funeral car. While the coffin with corpse set in the baggage compartment, mourners occupied the coach section."

Between 1928 and 1931 during the school term, a trolley would complete the Allentown-Northampton "Owl Service" run and proceed on weekdays to Center Valley and return to Allentown as the "School Car" for rural students attending Allentown High School.<sup>13</sup>

In 1931 local service was inaugurated for communities lying southeast, south, and southwest of Allentown.

The end of service for the St. Louis cars came in 1939 and is described as follows in *St. Louis Cars: History and Roster*.

"Early in November, 1939, No. 177, no longer listed on Souderton Car barn roster, performed the last St. Louis car assignment to any part of the Philadelphia Division when, in a Sunday emergency situation, the Allentown dispatcher assigned it to the Allentown-Center Valley schedule for one round trip only as a replacement for a disabled 430 Series car."

10. *Liberty Bell Route's 1000 Series Interurban Cars: History and Roster*. 1964, ed. Randolph L. Kulp, p. 27

11. *Liberty Bell Route's Heavy Interurban Cars: History and Roster*. 1969, ed. Randolph L. Kulp, p. 27

12. *The Lehigh Valley Transit Company's St. Louis Cars: History and Roster*. 1961, p. 43

13. *Ibid.*, p. 65



These were the trolleys most of us who were around at that time still remember. The conductor and motorman combined who had to put up with us most of the time was Leidy Kline. I doubt if any of the students who rode the "School Car" and knew Liedy ever forgot him.

The station for Center Valley was on Windy Heights. And it lived up to its name. But during the winter the sleigh riding was great on the hill next to the trolley tracks.

## BETHLEHEM TRANSIT COMPANY

In conjunction with the Liberty Bell Route, a second trolley route into Center Valley ran from Bethlehem. The following excerpt of the Bethlehem Transit Company goes into more detail on the problems of implementation for this particular route.

South Bethlehem and Saucon Street Railway Company received a charter on August 18, 1899, to construct a standard gauge electric railway southward from a terminus located at Fourth and New streets in South Bethlehem over South Mountain through Saucon Valley to a terminus in the village of Center Valley. However, receipt of the charter failed to stimulate construction activity and the project lay dormant until Hugh Crilly, a prominent Allentown contractor associated with the electric railway industry, acquired the property on January 6, 1903. By spring, 1903, Mr. Crilly also revealed misgivings as to the route's construction.

Mr. Crilly altered his position in December, 1905, and announced his intentions to construct a standard gauge route from South Bethlehem to Center Valley via Seidersville, Colesville, and Friedensville. Meanwhile, South Bethlehem Street Railway Company and South Bethlehem and Saucon Street Railway Company, the manner in which the route had been organized, filed and patented letters in Northampton County courthouse in Easton.

Construction commenced early in 1907 and track reached Colesville by October 14, 1907, but stringing of overhead wire had not been finished. Meanwhile, a carbarn had been completed at University Heights eastward from South Bethlehem-Center Valley highway. The company successfully concluded test operations from South Bethlehem to Colesville on November 24, 1907, and on the following day established passenger service from Fourth and New streets to Summit and Wyandotte streets intersection in South Bethlehem. Lehigh Valley Transit Company supplied power and Easton Transit Company loaned a small single truck closed car to the new organization. Trackage in South Bethlehem followed New, Packer (Avenue), Broadhead, Summit, and Wyandotte Streets.

Although completion of the remaining portion of the route progressed at a slow pace, Mr. Crilly announced the purchase of a double truck combination freight-passenger car. Lehigh Valley Transit Company rehabilitated the car at 14th Street Carbarn in Allentown and tested it over local trackage on January 28, 1908. Use and disposition of this car by South Bethlehem and Saucon Street Railway Company has never been determined. Meanwhile, the company purchased several second hand single truck open and closed cars painted either chrome yellow or olive green. Later, the electric railway company unsuccessfully experimented with the operation of two cars in tandem.

Almost a decade after initial organization had begun, South Bethlehem and Saucon Street Railway Company inaugurated service on May 2, 1909 over its entire length which totalled seven miles. In South Bethlehem the track terminated dead end near trackage owned by Lehigh Valley Transit Company and Easton Transit Company and in Center Valley only a few feet eastward from the former's Liberty Bell Route, or Philadelphia Division, which at that time followed Allentown — Philadelphia highway through the village. Prior to World War I the electric railway company received extra income by hauling cans of milk on cars from farms located in Saucon Valley to Summit and Wyandotte streets in South Bethlehem where a local dairy transferred cans from electric cars to horse-drawn wagons for conveyance to its plant. Although derail switches had been placed on both slopes of South Mountain, there were a few incidents in which cars operated out of control and upset, particularly at Wyandotte and Summit streets intersection.

Financial hardships plagued the system and in 1920 South Bethlehem and Saucon Street Railway Company reorganized as Bethlehem Transit Company and, in accordance with the change, adopted a red color scheme for rolling stock. In addition, the company purchased two single truck cars from Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company. During its history the company never operated modern street railway cars although a double truck car appeared briefly in service circa World War I. Unreliable service and frequent operational failures for various reasons caused passengers to sarcastically nickname the route "The Sunshine Line", implying that it operated only in fair weather.

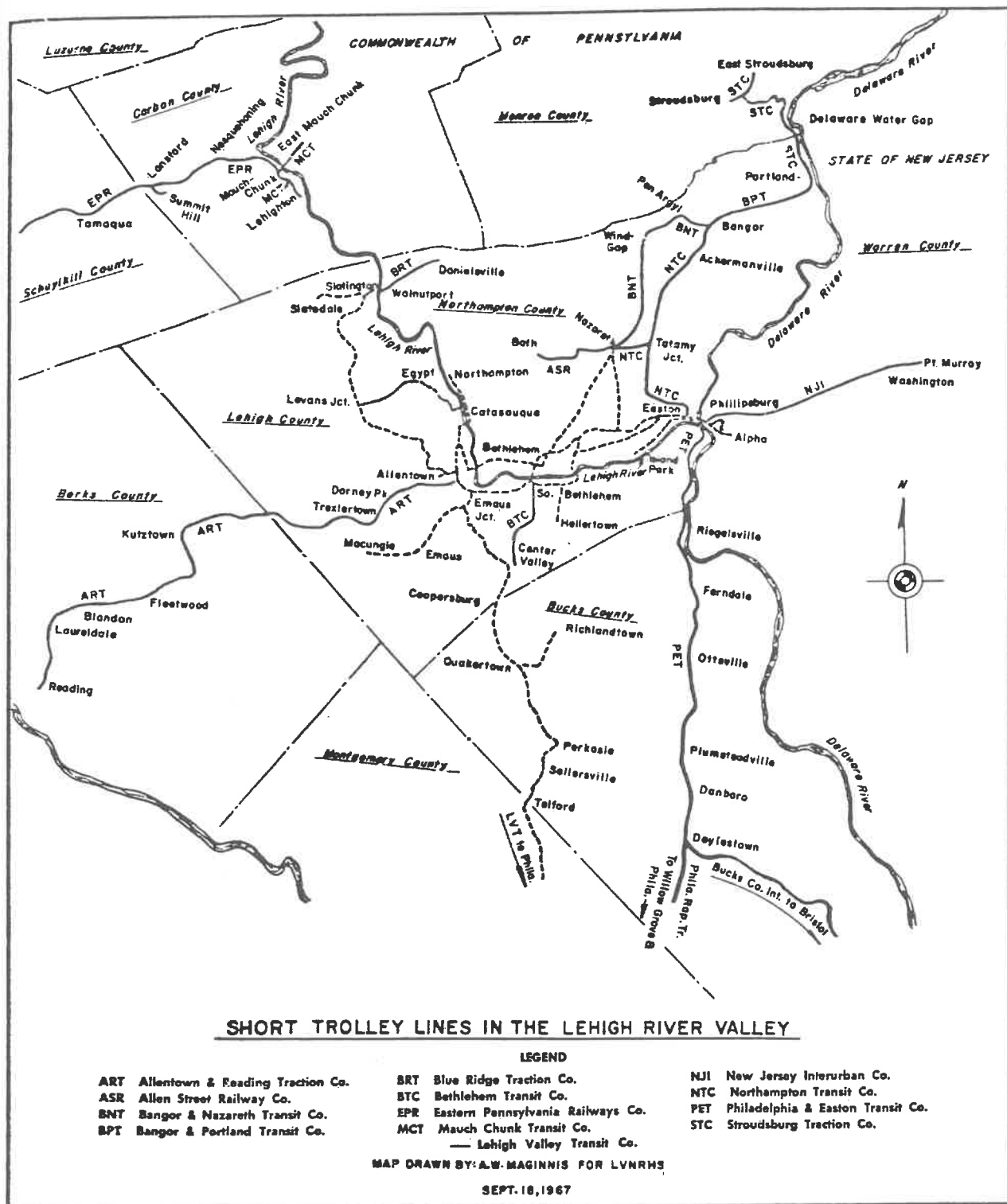
A street paving project conducted by the City of Bethlehem in autumn, 1928, near Lehigh University's campus doomed Bethlehem Transit Company's operations. Rather than revise the grading of its track on Broadhead Street between Packer Avenue and Summit Street, the company abandoned service between the intersection of Summit Street and Carlton Avenue and the terminus at Fourth and New streets. Finally, on January 29, 1929, the company operated electric street railway cars for the last time. An independent autobus company established service in the area served by the railway company plus an additional route in South Bethlehem.

For a brief moment South Bethlehem and Saucon Street Railway Company almost became a part of a larger system. Lehigh Valley Transit Company considered the acquisition of the railway property in 1917 in order to provide a section of right of way for a proposed route between Easton and a junction with the Liberty Bell Route in Center Valley via Bethlehem. Formation of this route would have provided high speed electric interurban service directly between Easton, Bethlehem, and Philadelphia; however, a change in Lehigh Valley Transit Company's managership in 1918 resulted in a cancellation of the program after a short portion of revised right of way had been completed westward from Easton.



Location, South of Lehigh Siding. Southbound car No. 1002 has just descended Lehigh Mountain the background and swings onto the side-of-the-road operation along Lanark Road. D.E. Peters Collection.





## CRAFTSMEN IN UPPER SAUCON

by Fran Petro

With the current trend towards recapturing the "good olde days", great emphasis — and interest — has arisen concerning the colonial crafts. As we look back two hundred years, it is almost impossible to imagine that people who worked, literally, from dawn to dusk were able to find the time to indulge in the creation of artistic handiwork.

Many a blacksmith, worn out from his day's labor, had the impulse to put "just a touch of fancy" on the scale he was making, or to include fancy scribing on a butchering set, or to turn an ordinary hinge into a lasting testament of his skill.

Even the iron master could turn a cast stove plate into a documented item to remind future generations of his existence.

Everywhere you look examples of documented, and undocumented craft work can be found:

- in the colorful fracturs of the Pennsylvania Germans
- the examples of Pennsylvania Red ware, slip ware and sgraffitto
- the coverlets documented with names, dates and townships
- the Kentucky long rifles
- the stove plates
- the tinsmiths' art: sconces, candlesticks, cookie cutters
- the pewter ware — so precious it actually was willed from one family member to another
- the expression of the joiner and itinerant artist as shown in decorated dower chests, exquisite corner cupboards
- the work of the clockmaker
- the carvings of animals and birds as done by the woodcarvers
- the baskets made from willows and rye
- the needlework in the form of samplers, quilts, and show towels

By reviewing this list, the thought slowly emerges if it were not for the last item mentioned, the needlework, we would not even be aware of the existence of women in Colonial Times!

### WEAVERS:

As early as 1779 wool was being processed in Upper Saucon Mills and the following list indicates the names of all local weavers.

Recap of Weavers on Upper Saucon Township: based on tax lists & census lists

1772:

Flexer, Michael	Weaver
-----------------	--------

1779:

Flexer, Michael	Weaver with 80 Acres of Land
Riest, Gerg	Weaver with 30 Acres of Land
Waber, George Adam	Weaver with 50 Acres of Land

1786:

Erdman, George	Weaver with 1 cow
Finck, Peter	Weaver with 1 cow

Meyer, Jacob	Weaver with 2 cows
Ruff, George	Weaver with 30 Acres and 1 Cow
Reinhard, Andrew	Weaver with 13 Acres and 1 Cow
Sleiter, Valentine	Weber (is this Weaver?) with 1 horse and 1 cow

1788:

Erdman, George	Weaver with 2 Cows
Geissinger, Jacob	Weaver with 2 Cows
Meyer, Jacob	Weaver with 3 Cows
Ruff, George	Weaver with 30 Acres and 2 Cows
Shleiter, Valentine	Weaver with 2 Cows
Weaver, G. Adam	Weaver with 50 Acres; 2 Horses; 3 Cows

1798:

Jong, Christian	Listed as having Stone Barn & Weaver's Shop
Newcomer, John	Listed as having Old Log Barn & Weaver's Shop and a Washhouse

(Note: In an 1801 Inventory of Martin Mushlitz's will, the name of George Rufe appears as a Weaver in Upper Saucon Township.)

1850:

Weavers: Fred Seifer	Reuben Shaffer	Solomon Shrig
John Klemmer	Henry Rinker	Michael Hottle
George Hillegass		Christian Kauffman
Jesse Marstellar		Solomon Fink
Maximillian Miller		Adam Romig
Tony Miller	John Snyder	Jacob Bowman

Dyer: Aaron Fry

One of these, Martin Mushlitz (a school teacher), died intestate. When an inventory of his personal belongings was taken in 1801, an administrator (George Rufe) was selected. George's occupation was that of a weaver. Sixty-one years later, we find Mushlitz's son listed as a carpet weaver in the township. (Whether this was the Scottish Ingrain carpets, similar in appearance to the coverlets, or rag carpets is unknown.) It is feasible that George Rufe instructed Muschlitz in the art of weaving.

Although a book on coverlets had been published by the Pennsylvania German Society, we have not been able to locate any documented coverlets by individuals who resided in Upper Saucon Township. In 1850 Aaron Fry was listed as a "dyer" . . . thus leading us to assume further that a coverlet weaver (s) did ply his trade within the boundaries of the township.

## CORDWAINERS AND SHOEMAKERS:

Within the Township there was an extremely large group of persons involved in these two occupations. Initially, the name "cordwainer" was a puzzle. Was this a person who cut wood? We assumed so as there would have been a tremendous amount of wood required to feed the many fireplaces. But we guessed wrong! Further research revealed that a cordwainer was an individual who only worked on the shoes of the gentlemen; a specialist!!!! The shoemaker was the person responsible for seeing to the needs of the common folk.

## TINSMITH:

Cookie cutters, pierced tin lanterns, wall sconces, deed boxes, tin trays, pierced panels for pie safes . . . all these, and more, were evidence of the tinsmith's craft.

Early documentation on these artists is lacking, however, in 1850 we did have four men plying this trade: John Horlacher, William Gangewere, Edward Bidding, and Henry Weaver. In 1895 L.J. and J.S. Gangewere were listed as Tinsmiths in the Friedensville area and Theodore Ritter and Alfred Weaver in the Center Valley area.

## IRONWORKS:

Although a goodly amount of iron ore was mined in the township in the period between 1840 and 1890, an iron furnace did not operate here as Durham furnace was conveniently situated.

Of particular significance is the dated "1758 5-Plate Stove" which the Lehigh County Historical Society has on display in the Troxel Steckel House. This stove was donated to the Historical Society by an Upper Sauconite — Mrs. Alton B. Knerr (née Mary Hartman). The plates of this stove were found encased in one of the downstairs fireplaces in Knerr's store (also known as Heller's Tavern) on Lanark Road. Whether this stove had ever been used in this early hostelry is debatable as the fireplaces are not positioned to use this type of heating element; however, an earlier structure on this site could have housed this 218 year old heater!

## FRACTUR ARTISTS AND OTHERS:

Fraktur — fractured writings, or to collectors — paper. But how we would like to have this particular "paper" — for it is a true expression of the people ..... a carryover from their Germanic inheritance.

Fraktur was done for several reasons: it was used as a form of instruction via the A,B,C's; it was given to a student, by his teacher, as a reward for work well done; it was used to herald the birth of a child; a document of a marriage; it was cut out and given as a valentine; it was created as a house blessing, and it was also a religious statement.

One local "fraktur type" artist that we can document is Christian Hellener. Born in Germany in 1798, Christian came to America in 1812 and in 1826 married Theresia Mory, who lived in what is now the Oakhurst section of the township.

Of interest is Hellener's style of fraktur — in look, quite medieval and extremely European in feeling, reflecting his Germanic background (Hellener was a descendant of a noble Germanic house, the Von Helleners). All discovered works of this practitioner heretofore have been water colors — some are signed, others are not. Examples of his work in other media are not known.

In browsing through a copy of the "Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine", an article on John Daniel Eisenbrown, Frakturist, (by Monroe H. Fabian) caught the attention of one of our local inhabitants. The fascinating part of this article was the picture of a bible bookplate done for Johann Heinrich Wind (one of the early settlers) and dated November 4, 1818. The article stated that John Daniel Eisenbrown practised the art of fraktur in Upper Saucon Township.

According to research done by a descendent, Paul Eisenbrown, John may have arrived in Philadelphia around 1811 and migrated to Upper Saucon in 1818, pursuing the profession of schoolteacher at the Friedens Lutheran Church (the same church attended by the Winds').

It is interesting to note the parallelism that exists between our two fraktur artists: Hellener and Eisenbrown. Both were born in Germany and came to America within a twenty year span. The examples of work done by these two individuals are scarce and the artists were quite different in their approach. Although Eisenbrown left the township after approximately five years, Hellener stayed. It

might be assumed that he and Hellener were friends due to their common backgrounds and artistic abilities. The fact that both of these men, in later years, became involved in the trade of Tombstone cutting further strengthens this assumption.

What a find!! We now have proof that a potterer worked in Upper Saucon during the late 1700's and the early 1800's — his name: Simon Walters.

In the 1798 tax list, Simon was listed as owning:

200 acres  
Log House (28 x 24)  
Log Barn  
One Potterer's Shed  
One Stable

Also in the Easton Courthouse, a copy of his will (probated on August 15, 1802), indicates that he left his potterer's shed to his son, George, along with the portion of land on which it stood. At the time his will was written, Simon's occupation was listed as yeoman (indicating that he was one of the wealthier class) and his neighbors, John Reeser and Abraham Geisinger, were executors for the will.

Presumably, Simon came into this area between 1761 and 1772 and established his farm and pottery.

Where was the location of this shop?? After combing thru the Dockets of the Courthouse, we found that Simon's son, George sold his 40 acres to Andrew Walters in 1806 — 4 years after receiving the property from his father. A later deed transaction refers to acreage near the public road leading from St. Paul's Church to Shaffer's Tavern. Thus we assume that the pottery shop was in the area between Blue Church Road and Glen Road; not at Lanark where an enormous amount of pottery shards was found several years ago during excavations for a cellar. The collection has been retained and it is most impressive to see the color and art work in these un-used samples.

#### WOOD CARVERS AND CABINET MAKERS:

Judging by the original woodwork and fantastically beautiful fireplace mantles still to be seen in many of the stone homes in the area, Upper Saucon had to have a wealth of truly talented wood craftsmen.

Such names as Frederick Deal (Diehl, Henry Bitz, George Erdman, George Bachman, Leonerd Richard, Matthias Kneppley, appear in wills and on early tax lists as engaging in this field of endeavor.

Country craftsmen were responsible for the production of simple forms of furniture: splay leg tables, wood boxes, bucket benches, dough trays, dry sinks, etc. The list is endless and although country design is not a true reflection of Chippendale or Federal form, the felling of contentment, stability, livability and esthetics more than compensate for the true adherence to classical form.

Many an artisan in wood reaped fame from their carvings of animals. Two such well known itinerant wood carvers were Schimmel and Aaron Mount. Were you aware that we had a talented wood carver — Ambrose Trumbauer — engaged in this pasttime?

Ambrose Trumbauer spent his life as a farmer; but, in his spare time, indulged in the art of wood carving. He brought to life, thru his nimble fingers, a recreation of his farm in miniature. His enjoyment of wood carving prompted him to display the products of his leisure at the Allentown Fair. Trumbauer's creations were true-to-life and brought pleasure to all those fortunate enough to own them.

During the era of factory produced products, the interest in hand crafted items died; they were considered passé — old fashioned — undesirable. Still there were people who plied their trade:

Ed Reinbold in 1880 — tombstone cutter (It was he who named Summit Lawn)

Jacob Bassler — a carpet and linen weaver at the junction of Main St. and Passer Road. (the Gehman's now live in this house).

John Horlacher — a currier in the late 1800's in the area of Center Valley close to the tennis courts.

Mr. Beck — made carpets in the 1900's.

Basket makers: Hargon Kemmerer at Blue Church

Levi Horlacher at Oakhurst made willow baskets.

(As a side note, we have been told that Hargon Kemmerer made wood splint baskets. He would negotiate to buy trees and after cutting down the desired trees, would let the trees sit for a predetermined amount of time. Then, using a special tool, Hargon would cut narrow strips from the logs and soak them. After soaking, the strips would be hung up to dry and while still pliable, they would be turned into a highly saleable product. Reports are that these were the best baskets made!!)

With the current craft interest, there are talented people within the Township engaging in this field of creativity:

The Wambold brothers — gunsmiths in the Locust Valley area.

John Wetzelle — artist in the Locust Valley area.

David Mest — wood carving in the old manner in Lanark.

Barbara Mest and Louise Buttery — painted tin and theorems; (Barbara also does frakturs)

And let's not forget the quilts, as done by the Church groups, the Fire Auxiliary and those individuals who turn out quilt after quilt for their loved ones; or, the creative arts of ceramics, pottery, knitting, crocheting, crewel, macrame, wood working and so on. The list is endless; perhaps the interest in handcrafted items is growing so rapidly in an effort to recapture the pace of a slower life — where less emphasis was placed on the monetary aspects of living and more emphasis was placed on LIVING!



Ambrose Trumbauer, talented woodcarver, pictured w/his grandson, Edwin Wagner.



Modern day crafts. Barbara Mest and Louise Buttery are shown working at the art of converting tinware into articles of beauty. Pictured are examples of theorems, fracturs, and painted tin.



The art of woodcarving is still being done locally by talented David Mest. Arranged on the bench are some of the examples that David has produced.

## SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Residents of Upper Saucon Township continue the traditional values of the early settlers by enriching our community through their volunteer services.

Various organizations have been generated, served specific or general community needs, and disbanded as interest or necessity waned.

Among those dedicated citizens presently contributing their time and energy on Upper Saucon Township's behalf, members of the following groups are notable.

### BOY SCOUTS

Troop 85 was organized on December 15, 1947 at St. Andrews Lutheran Church by Scouts who had been meeting with Troop 58 in Mountainville. (Note that the number is reversed.) The two troops jointly formed Explorer Post 85 with canoeing as their prime activity.

On the original troop committee were John Thomas, Wesley Hohe, William Wallace III, and Preston Lichtenwalner. Charles Seifried was the first scoutmaster, followed by Mr. Wallace, Kenneth Schlicher and Harvey Moyer. Troop 85 has returned to Trinity Memorial Church in Mountainville and Mr. Moyer is still Scoutmaster. Later troops in the area include 5 Cub Packs and three Scout Troops.

### GIRL SCOUTS

The impetus for founding Troop 45 came from Mrs. Alice Reddington who had trained six girls in Scouting without a troop. In September of 1942 the Ever Faithful Class of Friedensville Union Church agreed to sponsor an official troop serving scouts from Wydnor, Seidersville, Colesville and Friedensville. Mrs. Mildred Reinhard, Mrs. Helen Shook, Mrs. Evelyn Wallace and Mrs. Arlene Williams completed a six month training course and served as assistant leaders.

Troop 45 became Troop 436 when they joined the Bethlehem Council. The Upper Saucon district now supports one Senior, two Cadet, six Junior and six Brownie Troops.

### COUNTRYSIDE GARDEN CLUB

Mrs. Margaret Pennewell was the first president of the Countryside Garden Club which held its first meeting in 1959. This organization meets monthly at Southern Lehigh High School and has a membership of more than 50 women with Mrs. James Kemmerer the current president.

Their objectives are conservation, preservation of natural resources, beautification of the community and education. To this end the club projects include Arbor Day plantings at the schools and library, flower shows, a project at the Limeport Convalescent Home, workshops, bazaars and contributions of books to the library.

### SAUCON ASSOCIATION FOR A VIABLE ENVIRONMENT (SAVE)

Saucon Association for a Viable Environment (SAVE) was organized in 1970 under Alfred Siess, Jr. to promote and enhance a healthful and pleasing environment. Its members have worked to identify problems threatening our environment and to make this information available to the public. Monthly meetings are concerned with such topics as air and water pollution, open space, sewage and



waste disposal, soil and wildlife conservation, legislation on commercial and residential development, electrical power dilemmas, transportation, dams, nuclear power and supersonic aircraft.

The organization's chief activity has centered on preventing the proposed southern corridor of Interstate Highway 78 and to this end are conducting a lawsuit in cooperation with the Environmental Defense Fund, a national conservation group. Officers and members write letters, speak, attend meetings and workshops on environmental matters, keep in touch with other environmental groups, national and state, and give awards for excellence in environmental work. SAVE collects paper, glass and aluminum on the third Saturday of every month for recycling and sponsors SEEK, a career oriented ecology club for high school and college students.

### SOUTHERN LEHIGH JAYCETTES

This organization for women was formed in 1955 with Roberta Atkins as the first president.

Primarily an auxiliary to the Jaycees, the Jaycettes projects encompass a broad range of community interests. Funds are donated to national charities as well as local recreation and education groups. In addition, they provide all ages in the community with social activities ranging from Bingo games at Valley Manor Convalescent Home through Jr. Miss pageants, Easter egg hunts, pet shows, baby contests and craft fairs.

Jaycettes are also responsible for the monthly newsletter "Solehi Happenings".

### SOUTHERN LEHIGH JAYCEES

The Southern Lehigh Jaycees began in 1955 with 19 young men. These charter members were originally sponsored by a neighboring chapter, the Quakertown Jaycees.

The first membership meetings were held in the old Coopersburg Legion Building under the direction of President Ted Linde. The Jaycees ran such money making projects as: a broom sale, screwdriver set sale, and "guess the weight of the donkey" contest. These money makers helped to defray the cost of such community projects as: block parties, shopping trips for children at the Sacred Heart Home and Christmas food baskets for needy families.

The Jaycees also helped our community in other ways such as petitioning for a traffic light on Route 309 and running political candidates' nights which were held at the town hall. One of the main projects was the reorganization of the board of directors of the Saucon Living Memorial Park and the revitalization of this community organization.

In 1975 the Jaycees constructed, on the Living Memorial grounds, a Community Building valued at \$57,000.00. Within a three year period more than 4,000 Jaycee manhours went into planning and construction. This building, with kitchen and lavatory facilities, can comfortably accommodate 100 people. It is available to the community for public meetings and can be rented for parties, banquets, receptions, etc.

This year, under President Dennis Uhl, the 52 man organization runs a multitude of community projects such as the Lehigh County Junior Miss Pageant, Jalopy Derby, Easter Egg Hunt, Punt, Pass & Kick, and sponsoring a Little League Baseball Team, and are also involved in Drug abuse, Environmental and Mental Retardation programs.

### SOUTHERN LEHIGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Southern Lehigh Public Library building on the top of Beverly Hill is only three years old, but it is the third home for the library services that started in a private home in Lower Milford Township in 1963.

Impossible was what the achievement of library services in this rural community appeared to be in 1963. The Lehigh County Bookmobile had been discontinued the preceding year. (Twice a month for sixteen months the model demonstration unit funded by the government had stopped at Limeport, Coopersburg, and Center Valley.) The circulation had tripled the anticipated figure. However, when the federal funds ran out, the county refused to take it over. Petitions for continued bookmobile service and then for branch libraries in the southern part of the county were turned down by the commissioners. And, when put to a public referendum, the issue was defeated at the polls.

This left the residents of the Southern Lehigh School District without free public library services. There were limited libraries in the public schools but open only to students during school hours. Membership at the Allentown public library costs \$10.00 per person per year.

On April 24, 1963, ten mothers, called together by a Lower Milford housewife, met at the Hammarstrom home on the Limeport Pike and decided to start their own community library. They organized committees, advertised for books on radio and in the newspapers, and announced that the Lower Milford Library would open in the Hammarstrom basement on June 15.

In October 1974, it received its first official recognition in the form of an allocation of \$200.00 in the Lower Milford Township budget. State recognition followed in 1965, with \$222.00, and the Southern Lehigh School District with \$100.00. Upper Saucon Township made its first official allocation of \$100.00 in November 1965 and Coopersburg followed with \$250.00 in August 1966.

Meanwhile, the board had appointed a committee to plan for new and improved library facilities, and in 1969, Charles and Joan Wilde of Upper Saucon offered  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an acre on their property for a library site. The architectural firm of Pharo and Haas was hired in April 1970, and the building contract awarded to Franklin Skepton in May 1972.

Ground was broken on June 24 with the new facility opening for business on January 8, 1973.

Again the total cost of the building (\$100,000) is being borne by the community. (Residents "bought" a square foot of the library for \$30.00) Another calvacade of volunteers moved the 13,000 books and shelved them under the supervision of new librarian, Joan Dreibelis.

Thanks to continuing purchases of footage, the mortgage has been reduced to \$30,000. The library is now included regularly in the budgets of the three municipalities (\$1.00 per capita) and the Southern Lehigh School District. In addition, it receives aid from the state and federal government. All of this funding however, municipal, state and federal, goes into the operating expenses. The library building itself has been and will continue to be, paid for by individual and group contributions; including memorials donated in the name of twenty-nine area residents.

This fall the library expanded its services and hours, under the leadership of its third librarian, Anne Morris, and professional assistant librarians, Anneliese Adenstedt (now on leave of absence) and Ursula Truman. It has added a part-time clerk, Marie Miller, who also continues her duties as volunteer director.

#### LADIES AUXILIARY OF UPPER SAUCON VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.

A meeting was held at the Upper Saucon Volunteer Fire Co., No. 1, on Wednesday, February 17, 1954, for the purpose of organizing a Ladies' Auxiliary. Amelia Gaugler was named temporary president and Eva Martin, secretary. Julia Sabo was to be in charge of all applications for membership. It was decided to hold regular meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. Members had to be accepted by a majority vote. Attending the first meeting were: Mrs. Rollin Gaugler, Mrs. Karl Weber, Mrs. Harrison Martin, Mrs. Norman Schneider, Mrs. Charles Sabo, Mrs. Raymond Dietrich, Mrs. Elmer Wagner, and Mrs. Bernard Bauer.

In 1955, the organization grew to the point where membership cards had to be printed. It was then, too, that bake sales began, dishes and silverware were purchased for the social room and drapes were hung in the social room by the ladies. On June 27, 1956, the charter was presented at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Summit Lawn.

The Auxiliary activities include: serving cold lunch, which they donate, to members of the Lehigh County Volunteer Fire Company Association, when their meeting is held at Upper Saucon Fire Co., selling platters and sandwiches at the Ham and Turkey Raffles, donating colored eggs and assisting at the Easter Egg Hunts, which are sponsored by the men of the fire company for the children of the community. The Auxiliary sponsors refreshment stands at public auction sales when permissible, conduct hoagie sales and an annual bazaar besides sponsoring the sale of such articles as vanilla, candy, cards, potted plants, jewelry and even the chancing of a quilt. Recently they have started catering for wedding receptions, birthday parties and other functions that may be held in their quarters, and through these efforts they raise money for their treasury.

From year to year the money in the treasury has been used for useful purposes. In 1956, gas masks and canisters were bought for the men for fire fighting. In 1957, a considerable amount was donated toward the purchase of a new Mack Fire Truck which was bought by the Company. The Auxiliary in 1958 purchased a Walkie-Talkie outfit. Every year they donate toward the children's Christmas party and to the Company for the use of the engine room and toward lighting expenses. In 1961, cabinets were bought for the kitchen and a generous amount was donated toward the building fund. Also, a Two-Way Radio was purchased in 1970 for the 4-Wheel Power Wagon.

Thus, the Auxiliary works on and is always open for any suggestions from their members in ways to make money or ways in which they can better help the Fire Company.

#### UPPER SAUCON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

The Upper Saucon Volunteer Fire Company of Lanark, Pa., was organized in 1953 with Karl Weber as its first president. The first piece of equipment was a second-hand pumper, built in 1920 and purchased from Allentown's Liberty Fire Company.

On July 19, 1958, a new pumper was dedicated and housed. Before the dedication services, a 25 mile parade was given to the people of Upper Saucon Township to preview the old and new equipment.

In August 1959, a 4-acre tract of land along old Route 309 was purchased as the site of the future new fire company quarters. In March 1960, with Elmer Wagner as president, plans were made to build.

Early in December 1960, the equipment was moved into its new quarters. On December 17, cornerstone laying ceremonies were held. Present at the ceremony were Karl Weber the first president, as master of ceremonies; Elmer Wagner, president, and Roger Knecht, representing the supervisors. This ceremony was followed by a formal grand opening of the Social Room.

In the year 1969, they began catering to small receptions. Their parking facilities were enlarged to coincide with this. The fire department added a four-wheel drive  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton field truck on which they built a 200 gallon water tank. This vehicle is completely equipped with pump, radio, siren, etc. and has been a great asset in fighting field fires.

In 1970 they set aside \$15,000 toward the purchase of new fire equipment. This money was obtained from their annual fund drive, the Ladies Auxiliary yearly donation and other fund raising projects. They also added 1,300 feet of new fire hose, 2 Scott air paks and 3 spare air tanks and a Powhatten hose washer.

The new Mack Pumper, fully equipped, with a thousand gallon tank and thousand gallon pump, was delivered on October 15, 1972. Dedication services were held on Sunday, November 14, 1972.

In 1974 an emergency truck was purchased; this truck has won a prize for the best equipped emergency truck in every competition entered. The "Jaws of Life" tool was also purchased this year. This piece of equipment is used to free victims from accidents.

A building committee in the Spring of 1974 investigated the feasibility of an addition to the Fire Station; in March of 1976 the new addition was completed and renovations were made to parts of the original building at a cost of \$72,000. A facade placed on the 135 Foot front of the building now reads, in 2 foot high letters, "UPPER SAUCON FIRE COMPANY".

## UPPER SAUCON AMBULANCE CORP.

Since its inception a quarter of a century ago, it had always been the plan of the fire company to one day start an ambulance service within the Township. The only determinant to this goal was the date of implementation.

The fulfillment of this goal started in the fall of 1974 when a committee was formed to further investigate the feasibility of an ambulance corps. In September of 1975 a training school was started.

During December of 1975, a Cadillac ambulance (1972) was purchased for \$7,500 and an additional \$7,500 was put into equipment. Then in January of 1976, the Upper Saucon Fire Company Ambulance Corps was formed and the following officers were elected for a one year term.

Al Brandis	Captain
Francis Munjone	Lieutenant
Karen Brandis	Secretary
Larry Bleam	Treasurer

Upon completion of training, the ambulance service was started (April 1, 1976) manned by a group of 40 members attractively clad in royal blue jumpsuits with white trim.

The dream had become a reality.

## SOUTHERN LEHIGH MUSIC THEATRE

The Southern Lehigh Music Theatre was born from the enthusiasm of a group of Southern Lehigh high school graduates. A non-profit organization, their purpose has been to "educate, to entertain, and to provide an artistic and recreational activity for the Southern Lehigh cultural community".

Voting membership is open to Southern Lehigh alumni and any person working, or living, within the boundaries of the Southern Lehigh School District.

Our community has been exposed to the enthusiastic and joyful performances of this group via their presentations:

1973 . . . . . "1776"  
1974 . . . . . "GUYS and Dolls"  
1975 . . . . . "BRIGADOON"  
1976 . . . . . "1776"

And, we can look forward to additional enrichment in 1977 with another. . . as yet to be selected . . . . musical treat. The Music Theatre needs "you" as a participant and "YOU" as an audience. To paraphrase Alan Janesch, one of the founding group: "a theatrical production requires an audience to "receive" its signals of light, movement, and sound. And not only to receive, but to collate, to interpret, to evaluate. Without these processes, our efforts would be meaningless, culminating only in unseen gestures, colors, and shapes, and unheard words and tones. We need you to experience us, and thus to sustain us."

Interested? We hope so! Contact Richard Byrne at 282-4567 for additional information.



**POLICE DEPARTMENT (Left to Right)**  
 Jeffrey J. Johns, Township Manager; William Edmond, Sr., Chief of Police; Patrolmen William Bortz, Joseph Konkolics, Lawrence Minutola, Richard Hoffstetter, Richard Harris, Jerry Hebig.  
 Missing from picture: Frank Sandy



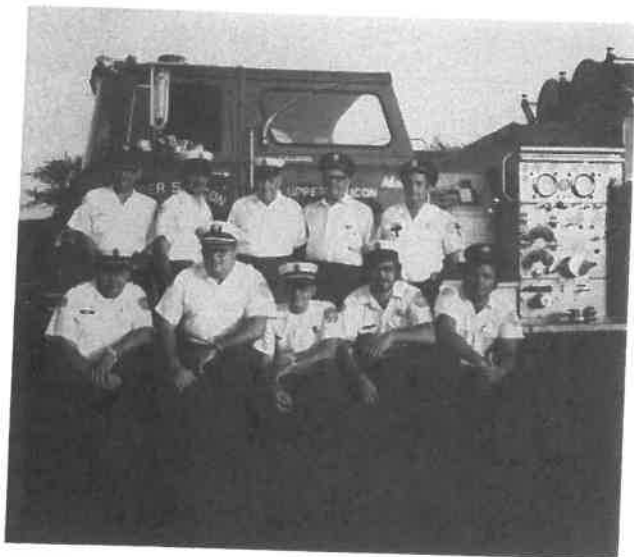
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
 Alfred A. Siess, Gerard E. Cozzolino, Vice Chairman; Lyle H. Kushner, Chairman; Gloria B. Walsh and Charles V. Ruppert



Row 1 Left to Right: Rosemary Cozzolino, Dorothy Moore, Eleanor Marshall  
 Row 2 Left to Right: Paul Folk, Business Office Manager and Joseph Black, Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer.



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (Left to Right)**  
 Row 1 - Ernest Hallowell, Donald Koch, James Adams, Harlan Brunstetter, Arthur Vasquez  
 Row 2 - Harvey Miller, Public Works Foreman; Albert Rohrbach, Kevin Bowley, William Danek, Samuel Bleam, Dennis DeKrone, Assistant Treatment Plant Operator.  
 Missing from picture: Vincent Tibolt and Joseph Meluskey, Jr., Treatment Plant Operator.



**FIRE COMPANY OFFICERS (Left to Right)**  
 Back Row - Ray Henn, Asst. Foreman, Joe Hoffstetter, Asst. Foreman, Earl Beitler, 1st Lieutenant, Wes Hohe, Captain, Bud Radle, Lieutenant  
 Front Row - Brooke Binkley, Asst. Fire Chief, Leo Torrasan, Chief, Reuben Schaffer, Foreman, Ron Bauer, Asst. Foreman, Jerry Cozzolino, Asst. Foreman



Ground breaking for new addition (Sept. 14, 1975)  
 Left to Right  
 Building Committee Chairman, Ronald Bauer  
 Senior Trustee, Wesley Hohe  
 Fire Company President, Elmer M. Wagner



UPPER SAUCON FIRE COMPANY EQUIPMENT

# UPPER SAUCON AMBULANCE CORPS



Left to Right - Tim Smith, Don Kuhns, Jack Moyer, Allen Brandis, Captain



Left to Right - Glenn Scholl, Larry Butler, Les Trach, Crew Capt., Randy Killian, Ryan LaHurd, Crew Capt., Fran Kloss



Left to Right - Paul Thomas, Crew Capt., Larry Wiersch, Doug Guignet, Jeff Kovacs, Wayne Johnson, and Archie DiGiacinto



2nd Row, Left to Right - Jim Faile, Louis Binkley, John Hess, Crew Capt., Mitzi Thomas  
1st Row - Bud Radle, Larry Bleam, Crew Capt., Jerry Cozzolino, Crew Capt., Reller Thomas



Left to Right - Karen Brandis, Don Kuhns, Carol LaHurd, George Radle, Crew Capt., Karen Thomas, Regina Christman, Elise Linde, Patti Schaffer, Judy Smith, Ruth Schadt, and Renee Eberts





#### UPPER SAUCON FIRE BELLS

Back Row, Left to Right - Betty Wenzel, Ruth Schadt, Dotty Petrakovich, Arlene Wertman, Betty Nester, Rosemary Cozzolino, Sue Jacobs.  
 Middle Row - Miriam Keeler, Edna Gassler, Pauline Carrer, Betty Bellucci, Helen Kratochwill  
 Front Row - Cheryl Jones, Maria Cozzolino, David Cozzolino, Sharon Petrakovitch  
 Missing from picture, Betty Wagner, Donna Wagner, Darlene Suter, Dotty Madle



Two oldest members of Upper Saucon Fire Company.  
 Earl Beidler and Wes Hohe

#### SOUTHERN LEHIGH MUSIC THEATRE's PRESENTATION OF "1776"



Left to Right  
 Henry Knerr as Benjamin Franklin,  
 Carol Reed as Martha Jefferson,  
 Richard Byrne as John Adams



Left to Right  
 Robert Pickering as Richard Henry Lee,  
 Henry Knerr as Benjamin Franklin,  
 Richard Byrne as John Adams





Left to Right  
 Henry Knerr as Benjamin Franklin,  
 Charles Steele as Thomas Jefferson,  
 Richard Byrne as John Adams,  
 Matthew Weber as Edward Rutledge  
 and in the back Michael Breisch as  
 Charles Thomson



Scenes of the Continental Congress in session.

## UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP

(The Home of the Friedensville Zinc Mines) :

*by Fran Petro*

Report No. 3 of the Joint Planning Commission of Lehigh-Northampton Counties, published in 1970, contains a listing of Historic Structures and Sites. The only "historical place of interest" in Upper Saucon Township (according to the Report) is the Friedensville Zinc Mines.

We beg to differ.....and the balance of this book will attempt to dislodge this false myth. However, if we are to be associated with the fabled mines, we must document the history of the mine within our Township.

Agriculture has flourished on the rich limestone soil of Upper Saucon Township since the first settlers arrived. As decades passed, however, and the population increased, the interests of the inhabitants expanded into other fields. In the early part of the nineteenth century it was noted by the farmers in the Friedensville Area that an unusual mineral was found in their fields. Little attention was paid to this mineral as the farmers had already determined that it was not IRON (which was a saleable product also found in this region).

Although tests were made on this unknown substance in the 1830's, the product was not properly identified until 1845. The story of the discovery of zinc is best told by Frank B. Heller (as it appeared in the 1914 publication "The History of Lehigh County Pennsylvania" commencing on Page #938).

"This discovery of zinc at Friedensville (like many another important discovery) is generally accredited to the one who first made it known rather than to the real discoverer. The following develops the true process of its discovery, and will serve to place the honor where the honor is due.

"On the west side of the road leading from Friedensville to Bethlehem, Pa. at a distance of about 150 perches from the base of the Lehigh Mountain, in the middle of a field fertile and productive in every other part, there was a depression resembling in shape a large bowl, about 300 feet in diameter, and about twelve feet in depth. On this spot, with the exception of a few sickly weeds, no vegetation grew. The sterility was attributed to the presence of mineral substances in the soil deleterious to plant-life but beyond this no one ventured.

"The place was visited by one of the State Geologists, but he made no report of his observations. On the edge of the hollow a number of boulders, resembling limestone, projected from the surface. These, Mr. Ueberroth, the owner of the land, attempted to convert into lime by the usual process, but failed, the whole mass melting together in the kiln.

"After this the place was made a repository for rubbish and stones picked from the farm, and so it remained until 1845, when Mr. Andrew K. Wittman was called as a surveyor to trace a line between lands of Mr. Ueberroth and one of his neighbors.

"While thus engaged his attention was attracted to these boulders, and he took pieces of them along home to add to a collection of minerals he was then forming.

"Taking much interest in minerals, and being of an investigating turn, he resolved upon a test of his recently acquired specimens, resorting first to the blowpipe, then to acids, and finally to the crucible. By the latter process he succeeded in obtaining about two ounces of metal, which, from his knowledge of metals, he knew to be zinc.

"On the following day, he met Mr. Ueberroth, told him of his discovery, and gave him a portion of the metal. On the afternoon of the same day, Ueberroth visited Bethlehem, and stopped at Leipert's Hotel, where he exhibited his metal to some friends.

"Among the sojourners at the hotel at the time was Prof. T. H. Roepper, who overheard the conversation between Ueberroth and his friends, saw the metal and lost no time in proceeding to Friedensville and getting a supply of ore which he soon succeeded in making brass by mixing it with copper. Roepper then went to Philadelphia, and made the discovery known, and has since been credited by nearly every one who undertook to write about it, while Mr. Wittman, the real discoverer, has hardly been noticed or mentioned by any."

The mining of the zinc ore first occurred on the farm of Jacob Ueberroth, half a mile north of Friedensville. As a result of this discovery, Samuel Wetherill erected a zinc oxide processing furnace in Bethlehem. Imagine the curiosity of the Township in watching this new venture. (Sidewalk superintendents by the score all offering enthusiastic council.) The children, particularly, must have enjoyed the sight of the wagons (or in bad weather the pack mules) hauling the ore over the mountain and into Bethlehem for processing.

Human nature being what it is, everyone wanted to get in on the ground floor of this new venture; everyone was interested in participating in this mining experiment. Owners of land in the Friedensville area were besieged to sell, or lease, their land. Although much of this early documentation has been lost, there is one record of a leasing transaction in the Allentown Court House.

In 1855 (the same year that the Pennsylvania and Lehigh Zinc Company was formed to mine and process the zinc ores) Charles Wittman, brother to Andrew K. Wittman, and George Probst leased 4 Acres for 20 years from Jacob Gangawere for the "purpose of exploring, mining, digging, and raising iron ore". (Allentown Court House — Misc. Docket Vol. #5, page #493)

In 1859 the Correll Mine (or Saucon Mine as it was sometimes called) was opened. At this time the Lehigh Zinc Company owned the Ueberroth Mine (which was the largest), the Triangle (or Three Cornered Mine), the Old Hartman Mine and the New Hartman mine. The chief difficulty in working the mines was the tremendous amount of water that had to be kept under control. To solve this handicap, the Lehigh Zinc Company, between 1869 and 1872, installed the world famous Cornish pump known as "THE PRESIDENT".

An interesting sidelight is told about "THE PRESIDENT". Due to its enormous size, the pump was brought, in sections, from Philadelphia by railroad. George Washington Boehm (who was born on February 22, 1854) was successful in receiving the contract to haul the pump from the train station at Center Valley to Friedensville. This heavy load was pulled by mules with teams straining against each other to counteract the weight and act as a brake.

## **"The President"**

### **The Largest Pumping Engine in the World**

It is a vertical condensing engine, 10 feet stroke diameter of cylinder, 110 inches.

Two flying wheels, diameter 35, feet weighing 92 tons each.

Two walking beams, weighing 44 tons each.

Nut that secures piston to cross-head weighs 1100 pounds.

Two connecting rods, 44 feet long, weight 8 tons each.

Main fly wheel shaft, weight 18 tons.

Capacity 14,000 gallons of water per minute.

Used 30 tons of coal in 24 hours.

Mr. George Boehm was given the contract to haul this gigantic engine. The eighteen-ton fly wheel shaft required twelve horses. Two piston rods of eight tons apiece required six horses.

When the pump was finally operative, a formal dedication was planned to complement the tremendous effort of all concerned. An invitation was extended to President Grant to officiate at the dedication ceremonies . . . the great day arrived . . . but the Guest-of-Honor never arrived. The papers in Washington indicated that he was in "the wilds of Pennsylvania". Rumors reached Friedensville that the President had stopped off to visit a long time acquaintance of his in Doylestown (we have also heard that it was Trumbauersville) and after a few snorts . . . well, the dedication was forgotten.

Whether true or not, the story does provide an interesting piece of "Americana"; and, curiously, this Pump has always been known as "THE PRESIDENT" . . . presumably, after President Grant.

The "PRESIDENT" pumped 12,000 to 16,000 gallons of water a minute . . . and the first well went dry; and then, the second; the third; the first spring; the second; and on and on in an ever widening circle. A "hue and cry" arose in the Township . . . CLOSE THE MINES! CLOSE THE MINES! And the mines did close for a short time; but, they reopened . . . only to close once more. Once again, they were reopened. Stories were beginning to circulate about the erratic workings of these mines. The intermittent behaviour was not caused by the threat of litigation from the farmers whose wells and springs went dry; nor from the rumor that the ore supply was becoming exhausted but because the Lehigh Zinc Company was unable to compete with the New Jersey Zinc Company in the manufacture of Zinc Oxide. In 1899 the New Jersey Zinc Company began its acquisition of all mining property in the Friedensville Area.

To recap briefly the ownership of these mines:

1859 . . . . . F. Osgood opened the Correll Mine and the Pennsylvania & Lehigh built a smelter furnace to produce zinc metal.

1860 . . . . . The Pennsylvania and Lehigh Zinc Company changed its name to the Lehigh Zinc Company and acquired all the mines, including a lease on the Correll Mine.

1860 to 1867 . . . . . The Lehigh Zinc Company controlled most of the mining in the district.

1869 to 1875 . . . . . Lehigh operated the Old Hartman Mine during this period until the mine was flooded by rising water levels. Most of the mining done at the Triangle was during the period from 1865 to 1872 when output from other mines was reduced because of water problems. Lehigh carried its sublease on the Correll Mine until 1875, having exhausted the oxidized zinc ore at the time.

1876 . . . . . The Lehigh Zinc Company shut down; pumping stopped at the Ueberroth mines flooding the Ueberroth and the Old Hartman Mines. The Correll Mine was then leased and operated by the Bergen Point Zinc Company until 1881.

1879 to 1893 . . . . . The Lehigh Zinc Company's New Hartman shaft proved that the underground workings from the Correll Mine had extended into Lehigh Zinc Company property. Both companies continued mining on their respective properties until 1881 when F. Osgood, part owner of the Correll Mine, organized the Friedensville Zinc Company, acquiring ownership of all the mines.

The Friedensville Zinc Company continued operation of the Correll and New Hartman Mines until 1893, with slight production from the Ueberroth in 1883, and 1886 when the Ueberroth pumps were operated in an attempt to lower water in the other mines. A Zinc Oxide plant was

erected at the Old Hartman Mine in 1885 — 1886. The New Hartman and Correll Mines were drowned out in 1892. An attempt was made to lower the water by pumps seated on rafts in the Ueberroth, but the pumps could not be lowered below 150 feet and all work was abandoned in 1893.

In this period of mining from the opening of the Ueberroth in 1853 to the closing of all the mines in 1893, water was a major handicap. This problem became particularly significant immediately prior to 1869 when the Lehigh Zinc Company was forced to install the large Cornish pump at the Ueberroth Mine, which at the time was reputed to be the largest of its type in the world.

The water was a severe hindrance to the mining operation, and its removal had a widespread effect on the surrounding area. During the period from 1872 to 1876, when this pump was in operation, many wells and springs in the valley were reported to have gone dry."

We were fortunate in discovering the following article which describes the Zinc Mines in the year 1876 as observed by four college students, seniors at Lafayette College:

"On Friday morning last four members of the Senior Class of Lafayette were standing upon a hill several miles from Bethlehem, gazing into the Saucon Valley. The party consisted of the three mining engineers and one chemist. Pilgrims of science, they had risen up early in the morning and hied them away to Bethlehem; had surmounted several of the hills that lie promiscuously about that beautiful town, and now stood, as we have said, gazing down upon the valley of the zinc mines.

The Saucon Valley, in which the Friedensville zinc deposits occur, is a nearly level plain, lying east and west along the Saucon creek, two or three miles in width, bounded north and south by low syenitic hills. The road from Bethlehem is about four miles long, nearly due south, at right angles to all the water courses of the country, all hills and hollows, and very rough. Over this they haul the ore by mule power in four-ton wagon loads. In a few minutes our party arrived at the mines, which lie near the center of the valley, and stood upon the brink of an immense pit, like the crater of an extinct volcano.

This pit, dug in working the outcrops, is several hundred feet long and nearly as many wide, of an irregularly elliptical shape, its longest diameter from east to west, and about 150 feet deep, with very precipitous sides.

From its bottom project upward rugged gray crags of dolomite rock, worn and torn and cracked by the geological forces. Roads are seen winding in and out among the masses. A building or two is perched upon the steep south side. Here and there is the opening of a shaft, and in the deepest part, toward the center a large jagged hole shows the locality of the main body of ore.

North of this pit are the washers and a small engine house; to the east, the main shaft and the large engine house with the immense walking beam slowly moving up and down; south, numerous buildings for different purposes, and several hundred feet west the zinc blend piled up in large heaps for roasting.

Syenite rock underlies the valley; upon this occurs the Potsdam sandstone, then a layer of slate, and finally a dolomitic limestone, belonging to the Chozy or Black River formation of the Trenton period of the lower silurian, and enclosing the zinc deposits.

The rocks of this valley have been much upheaved and plicated, probably by the disturbances closing the Paleozoic era; the zinc occurs in an anticlinal axis in nearly vertical veins. *Zinc is diffused throughout the limestone of the entire valley* and this fact leads to the scientific explanation of its presence in the veins.

The general strike of the stratified rocks of the valley is northeast and southwest, but *the most important zinc veins run east and west*. The zinc blende found at these mines is massive and com-

pact, yellowish or grayish white and of waxy lustre, greatly resembling the country rock. It contains from 40 to 60 per cent of zinc and about 4 per cent of iron. A brownish, earthy variety of smithsonite, or carbonate of zinc, is very abundant, and calamine, or zinc silicate mixed with decomposed rock and clay, forms one of the principal surface ores. Sanconite is a zinc mineral peculiar to these mines, and greenockite, or sulphide of cadmium, is also found as yellow incrustations upon the blends and limestone. Calcite is very abundant, and several other minerals are also found.

These mines were discovered in 1845 while searching for iron ore, and were first worked at the outcrops as open cuttings, but the increased depth of the diggings and the vast amounts of water encountered have compelled them to resort to a system of underground workings.

Mr. B. C. Webster, the ever courteous President of the Lehigh Zinc Company, had furnished us with passes, and with letters introducing us to Capt. Glasgow, the mining superintendent, and we were soon "doing" the mines under his auspices. First we went to the large houses where they keep the biggest engine in America. This was built by Merrick & Sons, of Philadelphia, from designs by Mr. John West. It is a vertical condensing engine, ten feet stroke, with a cylinder of cast iron, 110 inches in diameter. The total weight of the cylinder with its head and bottom is forty tons. The piston rod is fastened to the cross head by a steel nut weighing 1,100 pounds. There are two fly wheels each thirty-five feet in diameter, and each weighing ninety-two tons. The walking beam is in four parts, and weighs in all ninety-five tons; it gives motion to four plungers and four lift pumps, raising 17,000 gallons of water per minute from a depth of 220 feet. Sixteen boilers are connected with this engine, some of which are kept in reverse in case of accident.

The above figures can give but a faint idea of this monster machine. It looms up enormous in the gloom of its habitation, and the longer you look the larger it seems.

After examining the monster we were furnished with overalls and coats of white duck. We tucked the tails of the coats into the pants, tying the latter tight about our waists, and, encasing ourselves in dilapidated hats and rubbers, presented a grotesque appearance not to be described. Thus attired, we proceeded to the mouth of the mine, were *furnished with candles*, put in charge of an intelligent old miner, and commenced the descent.

Accustomed to the buckets of iron and to the cages of coal mines, which, although somewhat unsafe require no physical exertion, imagine us descending long lines of perpendicular ladders, clinging to the slippery rounds, treading on the fingers of the man below, and receiving showers of dirt from the heels of the man above, with lively apprehensions that the half-worn rounds might break and precipitate us into the depths below. Imagine us arriving at the foot to find that our further route lay along a single plank, perhaps loosely supported over an Abyss of unknown depth and profound darkness, perhaps with far below us the glimmering candles of the miners at work, and then a shouted-up warning that they were just going to blast. In other parts of the mine we crawled through narrow passages on hands and knees, and once squeezing head foremost through a narrow opening, we half slid, half rolled down to the bottom of an inclined plane of rocks and mud. The galleries of the mine are formed by following out the veins of ore. They are generally from two to four feet in width — sometimes enlarging into chambers, and at one place, of which I have before spoken, there is an immense hole, once occupied by the outcrop of the main body, from which the veins lead off in several directions.

There is no regular system of timbering, as the veins are nearly perpendicular.

They use in these mines an explosive made of sawdust soaked in nitro-glycerine, called dualin. It is made up into cartridges and exploded with a detonator. The dualin is handled without much precaution, being, said to be inexplusive except by the detonator. A cartridge was opened for us, portions of the charge taken out and examined by candle-light and then set fire to upon a rock.

It burned like dampened gunpowder, throwing out many sparks. We were cautioned not to smell the dualin for fear of headache, and told that the gases of the explosions often caused such effects in those not used to them.

One man has charge of all the blasting done in the mines. He let off a couple of blasts while we were below, which rumbled along the galleries and shook the solid rocks like an earthquake.

There is no special provision for ventilation in these mines, but the air was very pure, even in the lowest portions and at places we encountered strong drafts.

We met numerous parties of miners, some of them working in places where the water streamed from every crevice in the rocks. They are a healthy looking set of men, with whom underground life seems to agree. They get \$1.15 per day, working from six to ten hours, according to the wetness of the headings. The ore is transported from the workings to the hoists in barrows, made narrow to pass through the galleries.

The mine is drained with a cistern at the bottom of the main shaft, from which the water is pumped to the surface. The upper portions of the mine were tolerably dry, but down below, where they were mining blende, it was very wet; water trickled from the rocks in all directions, and occasionally we came to immense chutes, down which the water was streaming from the upper levels.

Approaching the main shaft our road lay through galleries where a single plank led over streams of black water, rushing along with frightful impetuosity. A tremendous roaring kept growing louder and louder, and presently we emerged from the galleries into the main shaft, where we stood upon a platform of two or three planks, darkness above and below, all the noise that can possibly be made by running water in our ears, and several pump rods, well furnished with bristling bolts and nuts, bolting up and down in dangerous proximity to our persons.

The main shaft is about thirty feet square and 220 feet deep. At the bottom is a rock cistern, into which discharges all the drainage of the mine. From this cistern four lift pumps, each 31-½ inches in diameter, empty the water into four tanks, ninety-six feet below the surface, and from the latter four plunge pumps force it to the mouth of the shaft. There are two main pump rods each two feet by three, built of Georgia pine, to which the bucket rods and plunger stocks are attached by set-off and a plunger head. The pumps and all of the large parts of the engine are built eight times stronger than the greatest working stress.

We had spent several hours below, going down a ladder to see this, crawling, almost bent double along some gallery after that, creeping through a small hole to inspect something else, ending with a straight climb of 220 feet, and it is safe to say that we were badly demoralized.

The washers are of the same kind as those used for treating limonite iron ores, a conical spindle set spirally with teeth, working in a trough, through which flows a stream of water. The ore is dumped in at one end, and is worked along by the teeth to the other, most of the sand and clay being washed out of it by the water.

After washing, the ore is passed through a revolving screen, which sizes it, and it is hauled to the smelting works. The sand and finer portions are "buddled", to extract any valuable ore which may remain in them.

In the winter the blende is roasted in heaps near the mouth of the mines; this is not done in summer, as the sulphurous vapors are very injurious to vegetation.

At the washers we finished our observation, and casting off our muddy overalls to resume the habiliments of ordinary life, refreshed ourselves by a good dinner at the Friedensville hotel, and took the back track, arriving in Easton late in the afternoon, tired and footsore, but with a large stock of information and many new ideas."

R.E.G.

The preceding reflects conditions in the zinc mining industry in the 1876's; in talking to some men who have had occasion to visit the current operation of the New Jersey Zinc Company in Friedensville in the same capacity.....as guests, we have found a similarity in impressions that has not changed over 100 years. The candles used for illumination have gone; but modern day visitors recall the depth (closer to 1200 to 2000 feet in depth); the dark; the raging torrents of water. One person recalls it as standing in the middle of a raging river with only a narrow bridge crossing over this frightening, violent flow of water.

The current mine is located on the south limb of the Beekmantown formation. All the zinc ore in this area occurs in the lower part of the Beekmantown formation of Ordovician age. The ore is associated with a westerly plunging, asymmetrical anticline, overturned to the north. In the early days the Ueberroth mine was the largest producer, and was located on the northwest vertical limb of the fold; the Old Hartman mine was on the crest; and the Triangle, Correll and New Hartman mines were on the southerly dipping limb. The present development, on the south limb, is a continuation from the Correll and the New Hartman mines.

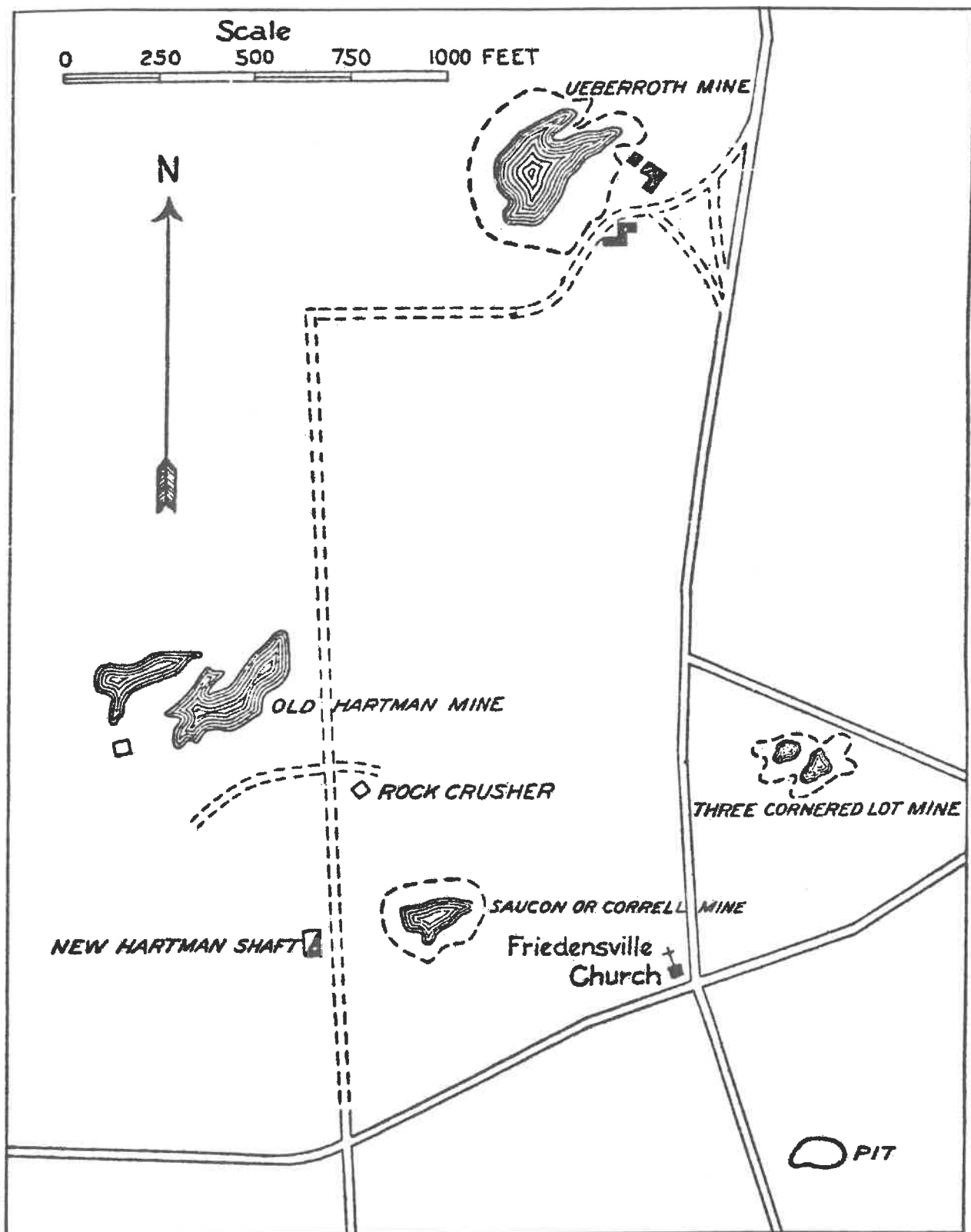
Since the New Jersey Zinc Company acquired the mines (from 1899 on), they have spent considerable time in exploring for extensions of ore via calyx (shot) drill holes. This was done in 1899 and again in 1914. The New Hartman mine was pumped during 1916 and 1917 to permit additional samplings. During 1924 addition exploration indicated that extensions of the New Hartman ore body could be classified as economical to mine; but follow thru was deferred at this time. Once again tests were done in the period between 1937 and 1942; shaft sinking started in 1945; the shaft was bottomed at 1261 feet in August, 1952. As can be expected, problems were incurred in this development; flows of water were encountered in drifting that reached 15,000 gallons per minute. The current pump capacity is now 26,000 gallons per minute. Production started in 1958. Up to the end of 1964, . . . . . 2,859,000 tons were milled; the operation can mine and mill *2500 tons of ore per day*.

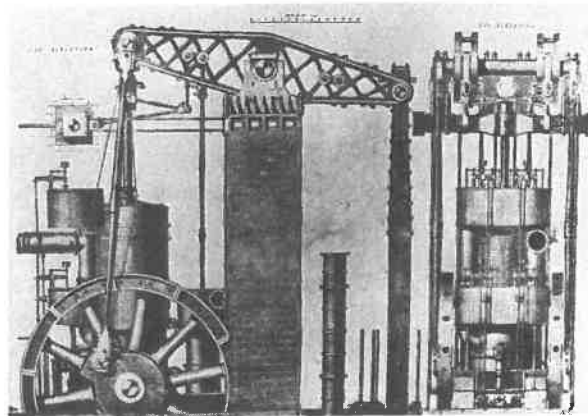
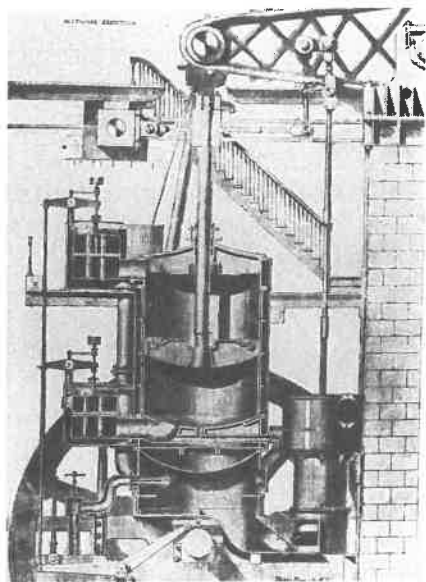
It is suggested that a student of geology should pursue his study of this area further via the following two books: Guidebook to Places of Geologic Interest in the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania by Benjamin LeRoy Miller and the Topographic & Geologic Survey (Bulletin #G16), published in 1939. These two books contain much on the early activities of the mines: lists the dates the mines were in operation; the dates they closed down; the reasons for this; specific geological descriptions and pictures of the area. Sufficient documentation has been gathered to show that the severe water conditions involved in all mining operations do prove that locally a tremendous amount of water is transmitted underground by percolation and permeation. The zinc deposits do occur in the Beekmantown formation which is approximately 1,225 feet in depth.

The Friedensville mine is not the only mine owned by the NJZ (in 1966 NJZ became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Gulf & Western Industries). Other mines are located in Gilman, Colorado; Ogdensburg, New Jersey; Austinville, Virginia; Jefferson City, Tennessee and in Elmwood, Tennessee. The Corporate headquarters is located in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Today, the NJZ is the country's largest miner of zinc ores, the largest manufacturer of zinc pigments, and one of the largest producers of zinc metal and alloys.

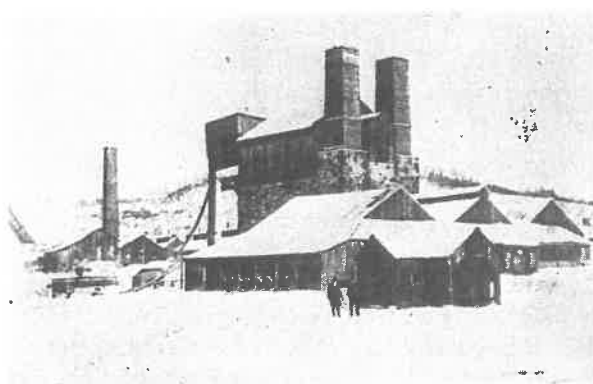


MAP OF FRIEDENSVILLE ZINC MINES

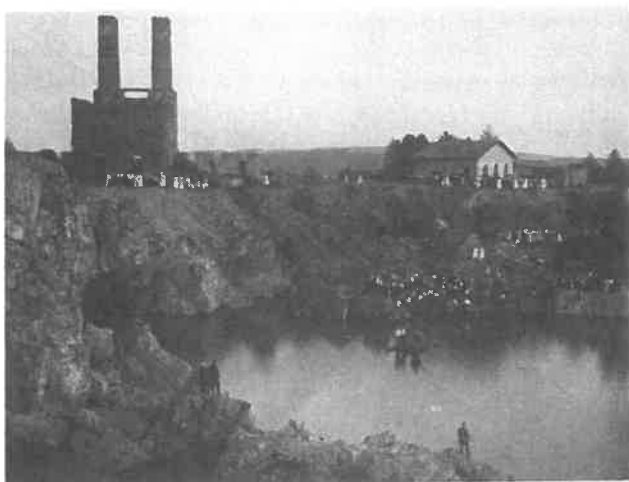




Sectional elevation drawings of the famous pump.....THE PRESIDENT



The HOME of the PRESIDENT.....the Pump House at the Ueberroth Mine where the largest pump in the United States, at that time, was placed in operation between 1869 and 1872. It is assumed that the individuals shown on the photograph were owners of the Company. Note the size comparison between the men and the buildings.



A view of the Ueberroth Zinc Mine in the early 1900's. This mine was located north of the Friedensville church in the approximate area where the NJZ settling tanks are currently.

We believe that the photograph shows the search for someone who drowned in the water filled mine. When mining activities at this location ceased, the water filled mine became a favorite swimming pool in the summer. The water level would fluctuate according to the rainfall.

The old Hartman Mine was located a short distance southwest of this mine.

## RECOLLECTIONS

*(Information obtained from Charles Yoachim)*

*December, 1975*

We have been most fortunate in being able to spend some delightful times with our senior citizens reminiscing about days gone by.

One of these fantastic people is Charlie Yoachim. For all his years, Charlie's sense of recall would put any younger person to shame. In order to preserve these memories we offer the following excerpts from our conversation with Charlie.

In 1897, when Charlie was seven years old, his family moved from Allentown to the house that is presently used as a convent for St. Joseph's Church. His grandfather bought the farm from the Wittman estate. The house had seven open fireplaces and an open beam ceiling . . . as far as Charlie recalls, the beams had always been exposed and the main beams were really large. One of the fireplaces contained a bake oven. When the stone house was stuccoed, the date stone (reportedly 1771 or 1781 — we have two reports that differ) was also, unfortunately covered.

In attempting to discover more information about the mountain and the Lanark area we were overjoyed to find that Charlie had excellent recall as to the ownership of the houses in that area.

Starting at the top of Lehigh mountain, McGee lives in the house on the right hand side as you come down the hill. On the opposite side of the hill was a store that Mr. Ziegel operated. The next house on the right side was owned by a man named Ritter. This property is now owned by McCarthy. Further down below is Heckman's Lane. There is a very old house in along this lane. (Incidentally, we have also heard reference to this lane as Heckman/Mory Lane as the dividing line between the two properties occurred in the middle of the lane.)

On the opposite side of the road was the Hohe house (now Dr. Ryan's). If you looked down into the woods, you could see the house where Rev. Kessler lived. During Christmas time in the early 1920's, Rev. Kessler was killed when the first trolley (a bumper) from Allentown to Coopersburg wrecked. The trolley jumped the track (where the two houses on the curve of the old trolley track were located) at the base of the mountain and burned. The following is an excerpt from the newspaper article regarding the trolley accident:

### **TERRIBLE ACCIDENT ON THE NEWLY OPENED COOPERSBURG BRANCH OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY TRACTION COMPANY — SIX KILLED AND ELEVEN INJURED.**

Last evening, Monday, a trolley car on the recently opened Coopersburg branch of the Lehigh Valley Traction Company's line ran away on a steep grade on the south side of the Lehigh mountain, three miles from this city, owing to the snow covered and slippery condition of the tracks, and jumping the track at a short curve near Wittman's it was wrecked. Six persons were killed and eleven seriously injured.

The dead are Ambrose Reinhard, of the firm of Reinhard & Weaver, Allentown Paving and Construction Company. Mr. Reinhard resided between Centre Valley and Friedensville; Rev. Tobias Kessler, of near Mountainville, formerly a resident of this city, and for years past bookkeeper in the wholesale grocery store of Johnston & Schwartz, in the first ward; Albert Yeager, son of Mr. Robert Yeager, of this city; Mrs. Sallie J. Fetzer, wife of Dr. J. Fetzer, of Coopersburg; Irwin Reimer, of Zion Hill, an employee of the Traction Company, and Frank Wesley, of this city, also an employee of the Traction Company.

The injured are Mrs. Leida C. Yeager, wife of Albert Yeager, who was killed. Concussion of the brain and fractured arm. Fatally injured.

John Wilt, proprietor of Wilt's Hotel, Centre Valley, numerous cuts in the head, right arm badly wrenched.

Mrs. John Wilt, right arm badly bruised, suffering from shock.

Edwin Simon, of Lanark, serious internal injuries, wounds on the head and shoulders.

Mrs. C. R. Newcomer, of Coopersburg, slight cuts on head and face, suffering from shock. She is a sister of Mrs. Sallie J. Fetzer who was killed in the accident.

William J. Pfeiffer, Allentown, road master of the Allentown and Coopersburg electric road, gash in head, arm broken, severe internal injuries.

Charles Stocker, motorman of car, bruises about head and chest.

A. L. Leidich, conductor Allentown, left ankle wrenched, bruised about body.

Harry Reichard, residing near scene of the accident, large gash in the head, bruised about chest and abdomen, injured internally.

An unknown Italian boy, skull fractured, injured internally, will die.

Rev. B. K. Hottel, of Passer, Bucks county, slight injuries.

The list of killed and injured represents the entire number of passengers and crew. Not a single occupant of the ill-fated car escaped injury. The car is a total wreck, and the escape of any of the occupants from death is nothing short of a miracle.

The car had just started down the mountain when it ran away. The track was covered with snow and ice and the brakes refused to take hold.

Road Officer Pfeiffer and Motorman Stocker tried bravely to check the speed of the car, but every moment it went faster and faster, speeding 50 miles an hour for over half a mile, and as it reached the curve it was thrown to one side and struck a pole. The latter tore the car in twain and it was then thrown on its side on the road.

The dead and injured were removed to neighboring houses after much delay, and late in the night those who were hurt were brought to the hospital in Allentown.

A car in charge of motorman Al Marks and conductor W.W. Sinkle, coming towards Allentown, was flagged by a woman who was visiting in the neighborhood, and a collision with the wrecked car was thus averted.

The dead were collected and placed in the car which arrived from Coopersburg. They presented a gruesome sight. The heads of nearly all were battered in and broken limbs and twisted and contorted bodies gave evidence of the awful injuries which they received.

Rev. Tobias Kessler, one of the dead, had made his home on the mountain on account of his failing health. The car passed his accustomed getting off place, but it was impossible to stop it. Mrs. Kessler was waiting for her husband at the point where he usually alighted. She saw the car both pass and leave the track, and then, although her husband was one of the victims, she ran some distance down the road and flagged the car coming toward Allentown.

At 10:30 o'clock the body of Mr. Kessler was taken from the car and removed to his home about 500 yards away. He had signalled the conductor to stop the car when it started to slide. Among the debris of the wrecked car was found a lot of articles, which the passengers purchased in the stores in this city for the Christmas celebrations. The brake of the car was found tightly closed after the accident.

The home-coming of Mr. Kessler was pitiful in the extreme. He had gotten a Christmas tree and this was lying in front of the door. It had to be removed before they could take his body into the house. Undertaker V.F. Wonderly took charge of his body and with a half dozen willing hands carried him to his home. The widow and three small children survive. It was the custom of the oldest of his little girls to meet him at Mountainville, but on Monday on account of the inclement weather he took the regular car. Mrs. Kessler witnessed the accident. She was waiting for the car, expecting her husband, and carried an umbrella. The car went past her at lightning speed. She suffered much from the scene she had witnessed a moment later and was completely prostrated when the news of her husband's fate reached her.

Rev. B. K. Hottel received only slight bruises. He left for his home a few minutes after the accident. Mr. Hottel is an extensive lumber dealer.

Little hopes are held out for some of the injured at the hospital. Mrs. Yeager is suffering from a fracture at the base of the skull and fracture of the right forearm. She is hovering between life and death in an unconscious condition and the end may come any moment.

The ill-fated car left this city for Coopersburg at 30 minutes of 7, and was crowded with holiday shoppers."

The next house on the road was where Diehl's live; then, the next house was the little stone house (a Mory property) behind Reed's. Walter's lived in the stone house where Reed lives; he sold it to Andrew Smith, an old man who made wine back there. At the end of the lane at Wittman's Corners was a stone house; the little post office marked the beginning of the lane. Both the Victorian Style frame house and the post office building were built by Charles Wittman, who owned the side of the hill which was kept in vineyards.

There were no other houses until you reach the present day Carmelite Monastery, the stone farmhouse was owned by Ed Hartman in 1900.

On the corner of Limeport Pike and Lanark Road, Dotterer owned a house; Ed Weider bought this house; then Clayton Dewitt. Clayton ran a store in the house. The next house (now Brandis) was part of the Rumfeld property. Then, in the house currently owned by Savidge, lived Wainfield Stephens. Stephens bought this property at a Sheriff's Sale from Morgan Morey.

The Lanark Hotel (Knerr's Store) was owned by Bill Trumbauer in the 1900's. In the 1940's this property was owned by Alton Knerr whose wife was a Hartman. They found iron stove plates in one of the fireplaces and donated it to the Lehigh County Historical Society. Interestingly, this five plate iron stove, dated 175 is now on display in the Troxell-Steckel house.

After crossing the creek, the first stone farmhouse on the right was where Rev. Hibsman lived (now Franklin Lichtenwalner). Rev. Hibsman was related to the Meyer's family. In back of this farmhouse was the farm of Newberry Ulmer, then came Kemmerer's farm (now Pavanello) . . . who raised grapes and made wine from them.

On the left hand side of the road was the Trexler farm, Louis was the tenant farmer there before 1900 when the property was still owned by Peter Wittman. In the early 1900's Louis bought it from the Wittman's. Louis ran a store and a post office in the stone addition to the main house.

Proceeding East on Saucon Valley Road from Knerr's Store, the first building on the left was the brick schoolhouse. The next place was the stone farmhouse known as "Sunnyside". Owned by Hartman in the 1900's. The next house was owned by David Morey (now Leroy Stahler). In the meadow stood another stone house (recently torn down) that was also owned by Morey.

The Lanark School (now the Paul Revere Furniture Shop) was built in the 1940's. The school board swapped even from the Hartman School with lot to this. Charlie indicated that he would never go on the School Board again as Harrisburg told you what to do. He had suggested that they put benches in the cellar so that the students could have recess there when the weather was bad; the state, however, would not go along with this idea.

Other School Directors in Charlie's term were: Walter Long, Laub, Preston Lichtenwalner, and Bauder. During this time, the school teachers had to teach school for three years before they got their certificates . . . Charlie remembers telling the candidates . . . "Don't want any monkey doodle business."

Taking the road to Limeport from Lanark Road, the first stone farmhouse on the right hand side of the road (now Knecht) had a stone building in the meadow that was a tannery. An old German farmer (who took care of this place and the Coopersburg Pike Toll collection) lived in this building.

After crossing the creek, the next building on the right was the Creamery. It was built by John Reichard prior to 1898. The property is now owned by Ms. Kester, who is Charlie's niece.

The next house was John Blank's, who owned a saw mill and grist mill in the back. In back of Blank's was the farm owned by Laubach. Weider lived in the next house after Blank. The log and stone farmhouse was owned by George Seip of Allentown; then, Bill Moyer (whose father-in-law was George Trexler)-bought it.

Proceeding further out Limeport Pike, past Standard School, there is a stone house on the left with a stone fence in front of it; this is Sheetz's house now . . . she is Frank B. Heller's granddaughter. In back of this house is a stone house in which Toth's live . . . this was Seider's Tavern.

The brick house on the right hand side of the road belonged to Koczirka. The ground that this house sits on originally belonged to Frank Heller. The Koczirka family were immigrants. One of the Toth's was killed by one of the Koczirka boys. They were also going to sue the Township for the creek emptying into their property.

As you approach the road to St. Joseph's Church, there is a farmhouse on the left hand side of Limeport Pike. Jesse Rudolph owned this house and it must be old. The water for the mill race used to go past the house. It was owned at one time by Charlie Erdman, who moved to Emmaus. John Weiss lived there at one time.

On the other side of the road leading to St. Joseph's Church is a farmhouse built by Joseph Wittman. St. Joseph's Church was originally held in the farmhouse and then the barn was converted into a church.

The farmhouses now owned by the McDermott's and the Sengs were part of the Yoachim farm.

The blue and white house on the right hand side of the road (Limeport Pike) was a school house . . . the University of Hard Knocks . . . and Frank Dietz was the teacher.

## POTPOURRI

by Fran Petro

In our many searches for information, we encountered a marvelous potpourri of facts and additional material on some of our local characters. In making the decision to preserve these stories for posterity, we have included this chapter. Included are biographies of local leaders within the community, various facts not included elsewhere in the book and a general "hodge-podge" of just about anything.

The first group of "potpourri items" are all written by Elsie Gruver.

### DIGGING OF OCHRE:

An immense amount of clay was removed from the farms of William Foering, Dan Egner and John Dubbs, which was used in the making of paint. It was a high grade of ochre. William Schonenberger the village blacksmith, painted the exterior of his newly erected shop with the ochre taken from the Dubbs farm. (Circa: late 1800's)

### "FREDDIE" HILFLICKER:

Freddie was known as the "wholesale peddler" and was the butt of ridicule; he came to Locust Valley and sold needles, pins, thread, shoelaces and other small trinkets. His merchandise was carried in a small suitcase strapped on his back. Without friends and a home, Freddie had no place to lay his head except on a hay mow. (Circa: early 1900's)

### ALICE REIMER:

Another vagrant without a home, Alice travelled far and wide and was known by many. As Alice traveled around the country side, she had her favorite places where she knew the housewife would offer her some supper and a place to sleep for the night (this was always a barn). If the farmer's wife was *very gracious*, she would also offer Alice breakfast the following day. I think Dr. Begerich from Limeport was one of her favorite people.

Alice, like Freddie, was the butt of ridicule, especially from young children who met her on the street. She wouldn't stay long in any one place. Rumors had it that she had been to Philadelphia and been seen at Wanamaker's!! A religious person, she would always offer "grace" before partaking of any food that was set before her.

Her clothing had been given to her by various people. In winter she wore felt boots, quilted shirts, a man's overcoat and a woolen scarf or cap on her head. Sometimes Alice would travel during the night, walking more toward the middle of the road than on the side. In dark clothing she was barely recognizable and it was on such an occasion that she was struck by a car and seriously injured. She never recovered. (Circa: early 1900's)

### THE "RUPPS":

Diagonally across the street from the late Elmer Carl's store lived Alvin Rupp and his family. Mr. Rupp was at one time the Superintendent of the Lehigh County School. His sons spent part of their

boyhood years in Locust Valley. Laurence Rupp became a prominent lawyer; John will be best remembered as having been the president of the Lehigh Valley Motor Club.

**PETER SCHOENENBERGER. . . . Veteran Constable:**

William Schonenberger's father, Peter.....or "Pitt", as he was called, was well known within the Township. For forty-three years he was the constable and kept the peace in Upper Saucon.

He encountered all kinds of criminals in his career....his prisoners ranged from wife-beaters to blackmailers, thieves, and murderers. If he was sent to find and arrest someone, he usually accomplished the task.

Pitt was a faithful servant of his office and while carrying out one of his duties on a damp, rainy night, he contracted pneumonia and died on July 5, 1926 at the age of 77.

**HOWARD FOERING:**

Howard Foering was born on November 24, 1867. In 1967 (at the age of 100) Howard was Lehigh University's oldest living alumnus.

When, in 1886, he entered Lehigh, he had been living on a farm in Locust Valley and rode the train to and from school every day. The distance from his home to the railroad station in Coopersburg was approximately 2 miles; and, I think I can safely assume that he walked the distance each way. In order to earn enough money to pay for his transportation for the four years, he taught in a country school for six months.

Upon his graduation from Lehigh, he became a resident of Bethlehem and taught school for seven years at the Old Lehigh Preparatory School (later, this was the Bethlehem Preparatory School). Then he became the headmaster for eighteen years! Eventually he went into banking and real estate with a group of other business men, founding the Melrose Land Company (which is still in existence today) on the Nazareth Pike.

On his one hundredth birthday (November 24, 1967) Howard received telegrams from President Lyndon B. Johnson, U.S. Congressman Fred B. Rooney, Dr. W. Demig Lewis, President of Lehigh University, and Malcolm Carrington Jr., National President of the Lehigh Alumni Association. An avid football and baseball enthusiast, Howard, as a spectator, witnessed ninety-three of Lehigh's football games. The football game on his 100th birthday was the highlight of his day!

**PETER WEAVER:**

For forty years (1868-1903) Mr. Weaver conducted the Locust Valley Post Office before Rural Free Delivery service was inaugurated. Mr. Weaver worked as a clerk in William Trumbauer's store, which was directly across the street from the store that Peter would conduct in later years.

After becoming William Trumbauer's successor and after the death of his father, Peter Weaver moved across the street into a large stone building. In 1908 he sold the building to Elmer Carl. Later, the Trumbauer store became the private residence of Frank Binder a well known cattle dealer.

**WILLIAM SCHONENBERGER:**

"Under a spreading Chestnut Tree the village smithy stands". Instead of chestnut trees, Bill, after two years of apprenticeship, built his shop among the "poplars".....a short distance beyond Carl's store. Just behind the shop was the huge dam which supplied the power for the water wheel in the old



Iron Foundry located diagonally across the street from the shop. In winter the dam was the source for the ice which Mr. Carl stored in a nearby ice-house for use in the summertime.

As a general rule, horses are gentle creatures and will behave well when being shod. But, once in a while you will find one that is "ornery" and will not hold still to be shod. Bill had installed, in his shop, a framework into which a "mean" horse was secured.....it's hind leg was put into a kind of "shackle". The horse had to hold still!!!!

Shoeing horses was "back breaking" work and in the early years Bill was busy from early morn till late at night. In winter time when horses had to have special shoes for travel in snow and on ice, Bill often worked long after dark. He had lights erected in his shop which were lit after daylight faded.

Besides shoeing horses there were wagons to be repaired, wagon wheel rims to be replaced, and repairs to other farm tools. When tractors began to replace horses and modern machinery replaced other farming equipment, work became slack. It was then that Bill, after forty years, found another job and sold his shop. The shop has been remodeled and is now the residence of Mrs. Weitknecht.

#### ELMER CARL:

As has been noted before, Peter Weaver sold his store to Elmer Carl. He and then his son, Harold, successively ran the business until Harold's death in 1969, when the store was converted into apartments.

It was a typical country general store: pot bellied stove, boxes of loose crackers, penny candies, sugar in large sacks and barrels, molasses in barrel (you brought your own container), thread, needles, pins, brooms, rakes, shovels, kerosene for lamps and lanterns, tobacco for the pipe smoker and chewing tobacco. All the things a family needed; you name it....; I'm sure Mr. Carl had it!!!! Later, when electricity came to the village an ice cream cabinet was installed and packaged ice-cream was sold; eventually, a refrigerated meat cabinet was installed.

On a Friday the store was a "beehive of activity". From all around farmers, as well as some of the villagers, brought their produce (eggs, butter, vegetables of all kinds, berries, and fruit) to Mr. Carl. He found a ready market for all these goods at the Bethlehem Market located on Third Street. In the early 1900's Mr. Carl made the trip to Bethlehem by horse and wagon. This meant an early start on Saturday morning and a late return that same day. With the advent of the automobile, the horse and wagon gave way to a truck.

In the wintertime, when the evenings were long, some of the men from the village would gather around the stove in the store and discuss the most likely topic of conversation, "the weather", some news event of national interest, maybe a local happening, and local politics.

#### BENDING WORKS:

The Bending Works, situated in the vicinity of Memorial Park in Coopersburg, were first owned by Oscar Landis.

Robert Kemmerer, a blacksmith, and Dorsey Leith conducted the business of making rims for wagon wheels, bows for roofs on buses and Mack trucks, and arm rests for bus seats. Later, Mr. Leith became the sole owner. Unfortunately, the building caught fire and burned to the ground in the 1903's; it was never rebuilt.

#### U.S. BLOCK COMPANY:

The U.S. Block Company is the successor of the Edgar Kennedy & Sons Block Company. It is located on Gun Club Road between Locust Valley Road and Tilghman Street. Started by the Ken-

nedys prior to 1950; it was sold to the U.S. Block Company in 1960; the factory is part of the former William Weaver property later owned by the Brown's.

Mr. Robert Oister is the Manager and his assistant is Mr. Kenneth Oister. Approximately 13 people are employed and peak production is 7200 blocks per day.

#### THE LOCUST VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB:

The Locust Valley Country Club is located on Locust Valley Road leading from Coopersburg to Steinsburg and is a private club of approximately 175 members. The course was started in 1953 when nine holes were opened; the other nine holes were completed in 1964.

Located at the southern end of Upper Saucon Township, the fourteenth and fifteenth holes are partially in Bucks County. The second and third holes are parallel to the old Liberty Bell Trolley line tracks.

The golf course is part of a grant of 200 acres by John Penn, then Governor of Ye Province of Pennsylvania, to George Marsteller in 1779; then, to Hartzell, Dubbs, Kuhns, Davis, Krum and finally Donald Smith when it was sold to the County Club in 1953.

Mr. Isadore Miller is president of the club. Mr. "Rich" Garber is golf pro; Mr. Tony Stranzl, Superintendent of the grounds; and Kitty and Charles LeCinque are managers. The club employs between 20-25 people.

#### SAUCON VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB:

Lying within the lush green valley of the Saucon Creek is the famous Saucon Valley Country Club. Inspired by the beauty and tranquility of this fertile farmland, the Bethlehem Steel Corporation founded the Saucon Valley Country Club in 1920.

The golf courses are three in number; one is a practice court and the other two are the usual 18 holes.

Most of the original course covers the Upper Saucon area; the Weyhill course crosses into Lower Saucon and incorporates part of the Thomas Iron Works and the old Gangaware homestead . . . including the cemetery.

#### WEDGEWOOD GOLF COURSE

The Wedgewood Golf Course is a public course located on the Limeport Pike in Upper Saucon Township about one-half mile southwest of the Carmelite Monastery at Lanark.

The course is located on the former Leo Weider farm and adjacent properties.

The Phoenix Contracting Company of Pottsville, Pa. started building the 18-hole course in 1961 and opened it to the public on July 4, 1963; Phoenix operates three other golf courses; two in Pennsylvania and one in New Jersey.

A native of Upper Saucon, Mr. David Linde is the General Superintendent for the four courses. He lives on the Wedgewood grounds.

Wedgewood employs about fifteen workers who keep the greens in excellent condition. Mr. Gregg Vorhis is Superintendent and Mr. Lou Richards from Hamburg, Pa. is the manager.

Plans have been made for an additional 18-hole course in the near future.

Approximately 40,000 rounds of golf are played per season at Wedgewood.

## TUMBLEBROOK GOLF COURSE:

Harry Holscher, Sr. purchased property from the Landis Family consisting of a farm and a water powered grist mill which they had operated until the early 1920's. A beautiful stone home adjacent to the Club House was built in 1840.

In 1931 nationally known golf architect Donald J. Ross designed the course and construction began. The following year the course was put into play after the completion of 6 holes; the remainder of the holes were completed in the late 1930's. Because of gasoline rationing during World War II, players were prevented from reaching the course. After the war the course was reopened; and, the present owner, Mr. Harry Holscher, Jr., took over the course in 1956.

Tumblebrook is open to the public on a daily fee basis and provides a snack bar, rental pull carts, powered riding carts, and a pro-shop.

## HONORABLE FRANKLIN BENJAMIN HELLER:

The Honorable Franklin B. Heller (son of Abraham and Mary B., née Egner, Heller) was born on September 11, 1844 and occupied the Owen homestead. This tract of 200 acres has remained in the family since the original title was acquired by the Owen family after arriving in America prior to 1743. Interestingly, this is one of the few original tracts that has been occupied by a direct descendant.

The first Hellers to arrive in America were Christopher and his son in 1738 from Peterskeim, Germany. The family consisted of six sons: John, Dieter, Simon, Michael, Daniel, Ludwig, and Christopher. Michael was born on January 9, 1758 and died in 1849 leaving his wife Magdalena Buchecker and six children. Michael's son, Paul was Married to Catharine "OWEN" Beil; they had three children, one of these was Abraham Heller . . . the father of the aforementioned Frank B. Heller.

Franklin's education was gained via the public school system including his attendance at Freeland Seminary, now Ursinus College. For 13 terms, from 1863 to 1876, he taught school holding a permanent certificate. Coopersburg reaped the benefit of his teaching for a period of six years and Limeport for a period of seven years.

During the fall of 1876 Heller was elected, as a Democrat, to the State Legislature and re-elected in 1878 serving as a member of the Committee on Education. Prior to his election, he married Mary J. Dillinger on June 15, 1875 and they were the parents of three children. Their daughter, Nellie, married Isadore Selig and Nellie's daughter, LaRue (now Mrs. Glenn Sheetz) is following in her grandfather's profession and is a teacher in the Southern Lehigh School District.

It is with extreme gratitude that one of the lasting testimonials to Mr. Heller has been the publication of his years of research into the history of Upper Saucon Township. His chapters on Upper Saucon and Coopersburg in the 1884 Lehigh County History and the 1914 History of Lehigh County have been of prime importance to all future historians. Without them, our task would have been impossible.

## ALBERT OHL:

Albert Ohl wrote a history of Upper Saucon Township when 80 years of age, without the use of notes. The original manuscript, which was written on scraps of paper such as the back sheets of the calendar, are on file in Washington.

Born and raised in Center Valley, Mr. Ohl was self-educated as were many of his generation. In his younger days he conducted summer classes for those children whose parents were able to buy books and supplies, plus a small fee for the teacher. The basics of reading and arithmetic were taught.

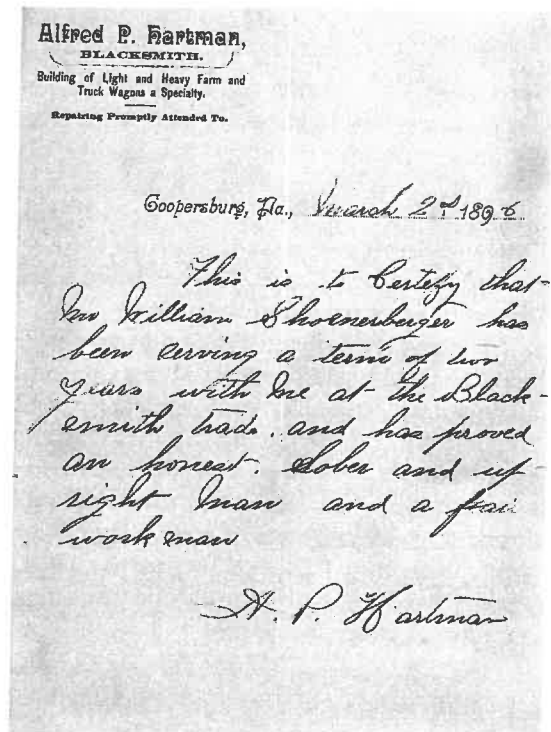
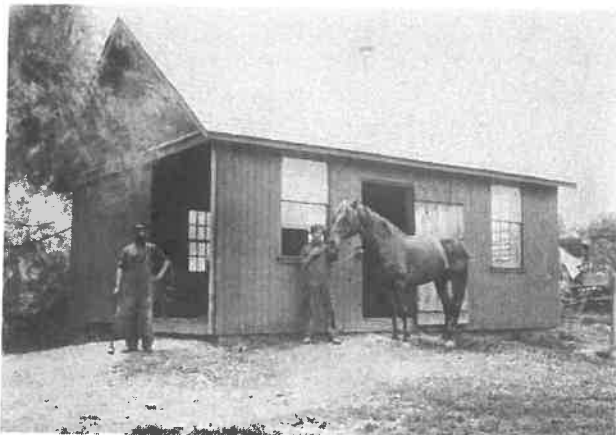
His daughter, Martha, related how he would sit and help his own children with their lesson; he was extremely patient and most adept in helping them understand the complexities of the lesson.

Martha also recalled that Mr. Ohl always had a beard in the winter and during the summertime, when it became itchy, shaved the beard off . . . but, he always left the moustache. He used to tease the children saying . . . "when the frost is gone, the beard is gone"!!

Another memory of Mr. Ohl is that of he and his mule, Jake. Although reprimanded by Mrs. Ohl for paying the extravagant sum of \$80 for the mule at a public sale, Jake remained with the family until his demise.

The father of ten children, Albert and his wife, the former Jennie Stauffer, lived on a small log farmhouse located in Ohl's Lane, off of Blue Church Road since 1895. He was a carpenter and a stone mason by profession and in the winter did maintenance work in the carbarn of the Lehigh Valley Transit Company.

To him we are most grateful . . . for the historical data left to those of us interested in the earlier days of the township.



Upper left is the village blacksmith shop of William Schonenberger (he is the man holding the sledge hammer) . . . . in Locust Valley. Shown at right his apprenticeship paper.



These two photographs depict Frank B. Heller at two stages in his life, that of a young man and that of a man who has filled a very stimulating place in the world. A noted historian, we are indeed indebted to his careful research into our township's past.



Howard Foering . . . born in Locust Valley; he had the distinction of being Lehigh University's oldest living alumnus in 1967 when he attained the age of 100'.



Mr. and Mrs. Peter Schoenenberger . . . "Pitt" was the constable for 43 years in Upper Saucon Township.



Upper Saucon Historian, Albert Ohl (at the age of 84) and his granddaughter - Carolee (age 10). Born on December 22, 1867 in Center Valley, Albert Ohl spent his life in accumulating historical data on the township.

In 1943, this data was published by the Lion's Club in its original, handwritten form and has since become a collector's item. Copies of this book are zealously guarded by the owners.



Coopersburg Bending Works owned by Dorsey Leith and Robert Kemmerer.



The office building of the Bending Works with Dorsey Leith in front of it.



The garages for the Bending Works and for the People's Coal Company.

## BLUE CHURCH AREA

*by Ruby Reinik*

A short time before his death in 1718 William Penn made his last will and testament, in which, among other bequests, he bequeathed to his grandsons: Springet Penn and William Penn the quantity of 10,000 acres of land each . . . . to be allotted and set out in some proper and beneficial places in the Province of Pennsylvania. On April 16, 1729 Springet Penn conveyed his title to these lands to his brother William, who soon after conveyed his title to these lands to William Allen (to whom a warrant under the date of March 5, 1730 was issued) for a tract of 372 acres. William Allen, in 1737, sold the tract to Philip Geissinger. It embraces most of the land along Blue Church Road in the vicinity of Blue Church extending to Glen Road and to Blue Church Road South and along Mill Road to Gun Club Road. In 1758 Philip Geissinger sold  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres and donated  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre to the Lutheran Congregation of Upper Saucon and the first church was built. Later on more land was purchased for cemetery use. Many people from the surrounding area and from Coopersburg are buried in the Blue Church cemeteries.

The school at Blue Church (the small, stone building on Applebutter Hill Road, next to the cemetery and across the street from the Blue Church parsonage) was established about 1745, or 1746, when a man named Vigero was sent by Rev. H. A. Muhlenberg to be the preacher and teacher. Little is known about the early teachers but the church records note that "On June 23, 1757, Peter Knepply, the schoolmaster, was married to Christina Gangawere."

At first school sessions were probably held in the church on weekdays and church services were held on Sunday. After a larger building was erected, school sessions were conducted in the Church basement. The last teacher to teach in the Church before the adoption of the common school law in 1848 was Levi Johnson. Then, Aaron Butterwick became the teacher and taught in the basement of the church. We do not know who the teacher was when the school building was built in 1868.

There were many teachers through the years. Oft times teaching was a stepping stone to another profession. Many young men after completing several years of college, taught school for a few years before going on to become ministers, doctors, or lawyers. At Blue Church several of the teachers also served as a church organist. Mr. Butterwick was one, another was J. W. R. Walbert (who also served as teacher for the longest period of time . . . . 20 years). Another teacher, who was also church organist, was Charles Ott. He taught for two years later served for ten years. Ott was followed by Harvey Sloyer, who taught for three years. The last teacher was Lloyd Berkenstock, who taught from 1933 to 1940 (when the school was closed); then, the students were bused to other schools in the Township, just as they are today.

The land was gradually split into many small farms and for many years most of the people in the area were farmers. The farming now being done in the area is only a sideline. There were several businesses in the area that operated for a period of years. The Grist Mill on Mill Road near the intersection of Gun Club Road was probably built by a Geissinger in 1796. We know that David Stover was the proprietor of the mill at one time; his wife was Mary Geissinger. A limekiln operated by the Greenawalt family was located on the triangular plot of land where Blue Church Road South splits away from Blue Church Road. Constantine Groman, who resided in the house at the intersection of Blue Church Road and Chestnut Hill Road, was the local undertaker from 1893 to 1921. In those days the body was prepared for burial in the home. Mr. Groman would buy unlined wooden caskets and put in the lining. The body was then placed in the casket and would lie in state in the parlor until the day of the funeral. The family and friends would gather at the home; the pastor would read several Bible verses and say a prayer and several choir members would sing a hymn. The procession would then move to the Church for the services; then, the interment followed in the cemetery. After the funeral, the relatives and friends would return to the home for refreshments before making the trip home. If the home was too small to accommodate everyone, they would adjourn to a local hotel.



From the Ohl History comes this account of another business venture in the area.

"About 1885, a German by the name of Captain Anthony Iten (a captain during the Civil War) came from Philadelphia and built and equipped a brewery and started brewing a drink, calling it by the name "Iten's Valley Weiss Beer". It was supposed to be a soft drink, bottled and sold at Hotels, Stores, and even at Sunday School picnics at 5 cents a bottle. But as being soft, it would put our present Lager Beer to shame! At the brewery it was 5 cents a schooner but that was a schooner — it contained ONE QUART! It was soon discontinued at Sunday School picnics, too much fight in it; but at hotels it sold well. Also much drinking was done at the brewery, which was very objectionable to many of the church going people, especially, to the Methodists who held a camp meeting on the top of Chestnut Hill every year. One night fire broke out, the whole works went up in flames. The origin of the fire was never determined, and it was never rebuilt. Captain Iten lost his all." "He had made application for fire insurance, sometime previous to the fire, but was not in possession of the policy as yet so he got no insurance. The brewery was located west of the Blue Church in a little valley formed by Applebutter and Chestnut hills. Captain Iten lies buried at the Blue Church. A neat little monument marks his resting place, showing that he served the country of his adoption in its direst need. "SLEEP SOLDIER SLEEP" . . . these three words are carved into the tombstone."

According to the tombstone he was Captain Anton Iten (7/18/1827 . . . 10/30/1889). He served with Company "C", 24th Regiment, Illinois Volunteers. How he came to this area is not known. He was married to the former Matilda Brunner, who was an aunt to Mrs. Oscar Young. Mrs. Iten spent the last years of her life with the Young family.

The brewery had been located on Glen Road. According to THE BEER BOOK by Will Anderson, Weiss (White) Beer is a pale, effervescent beer, usually brewed from wheat that goes through its second fermentation in the bottle. Back in the second half of the nineteenth century, Weiss beer was produced by many United States Breweries, but there is none in production today.

Another ill-fated venture along Glen Road was the attempt to find gold. Dan Detweiler and Andrew Bean got the idea that there was gold in that hill. They probably found some pyrite, or some shiny ore, and thinking it was gold, they started digging. Detweiler built a sluice and had Mr. Kemmerer, the stone mason, build a round stone receptacle for the gold. This round stone structure is still beside the road.

Needless to say, they found no gold but they each dug a "mine"; and, it got to be a contest to see who had the deepest mine. The holes got so deep that they put a ladder down into the mine; and, they got someone else to haul up the diggings with a bucket on a rope. It was hard work and they didn't find any gold . . . so, after a time, the project was discontinued.

According to the 1850 census there were twenty-four shoemakers in Upper Saucon Township and at least two of these lived in the Blue Church area. One was Elias Schaffer, who lived near the Paul Young house. Mr. Schaffer was Mr. Young's grandfather. The second shoemaker listed in the 1850 census was Ehrhard Brinker who also lived in the area.

Another craft, or trade, that was practiced in the area was tombstone cutting. In 1850 a Leopold Peck is listed. In later years Thomas Kocher was the last of the tombstone cutters in the area. He had a shop next to the schoolyard. Every child who attended Blue Church School in those days spent some recess time standing at the door of Tom's shop watching him cut the granite tombstones. He was an artist! First, the desired design was drawn on paper; then, it was pasted on the stone and the design was chiseled into the stone. The paper was removed and the cutting started. It was a slow, laborious work but the finished product was a work of art. A walk through the cemetery is proof of that.

Another craftsman who lived in the area was Hargon Kemmerer. He was a stone mason by trade and practiced the craft of basket making.

Today the area has many lovely homes, most of them built during the last decade. Many of the old homes in the area have been restored to lovely dwellings. There is also a recreational facility in the area next to the church, in a meadow, ---Moyer's lake. Here people can fish, camp, and relax in a picturesque, rural setting.





Captain Anton Iten and wife, Matilda (nee Brunner)  
 Captain Iten, who served in the Civil War, built  
 Iten's Valley Brewery on Glen Road in Upper Saucon  
 Township in the 1880's.  
 Mrs. Iten's father, Andrew Brunner, was the person  
 who stuccoed Blue Church.



Site of the "gold mine" in the Blue Church area.  
 The brewery and the mine are in close proximity.



Kromer residence at junction of Chestnut Hill Road  
 and Applebutter Hill Road. (formerly Edwin Young)



Log structure on Blue Church Road

## THE VILLAGE OF CENTER VALLEY

*by Ruby Reinik*

When was Center Valley (Centre Valley) first settled? It is difficult to say. One of the first settlers, George Zewitz (Savitz), bought 300 acres of land that Caspar Wistar had originally purchased from the Penn Family. Zewitz built a grist mill along the Saucon Creek just about where the Station Avenue ramp off of Route #309, southbound, is now located. According to an article from the July 26, 1936 Morning Call (written by Charles Roberts), this early mill was built in 1734. This would make it the first grist mill in Lehigh County!! Further, Mr. Roberts indicated that the original mill was a log structure which had been destroyed by fire in 1835. Then, it was replaced by a large stone structure which stood until 1970 when it was razed to make way for the Rt. #309 Bypass. The mill was constantly operated as a grist mill and flour mill until the early 1940's. From 1858 until the mill closed, the Geissinger family operated the mill.

In his newspaper article Mr. Roberts also mentioned that a public road was laid out in 1734 . . . beginning at a white oak tree standing near George Savitz's mill that went down to the Great Swamp (the current borough of Quakertown) in Bucks County. From there the road went to the North Wales Road which led into Philadelphia. This road was laid out one year earlier than the road, called the King's Highway, from Jeremiah Trexler's Tavern (now the 1760 House) in Macungie Township to the North Wales Road.

Another area family, who were large land owners, were the Yoder's. In 1738 a warrant for 161 1/2 acres south of Center Valley, bordering Coopersburg, was issued to John Yoder. It included the land where the Mennonite Meeting House is located as well as the Laneco Shopping Center and the Southern Lehigh swimming pool. The Yoders purchased additional land in the Center Valley area. In 1752 George Zewitz sold 150 acres of land to John Yoder; John, in turn, later sold the property to his son Jacob. It was Jacob who built the dated 1802 stone home that now belongs to Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Bauder. Until fifty years ago, the Yoder family also owned the Ed Moyer farm. In 1848 the first public school (located in the vicinity of the Elim Campmeeting Grounds), the Socritarian, was built on Yoder land.

Another early settler in Center Valley was Andrew Wint. He owned most of the land along Main Street and operated a tannery near the present Windsor Hotel. Later, Melchior Kneppley owned the tannery and sold it to the Romig family. The Romig's also owned the grist mill from 1771 to 1818.

Most of the early settlers were German people who were members of the Mennonite Church. Hard working, honest people, they came to America to escape religious persecution. They established the Mennonite Meeting House near Coopersburg and built a school for their children. Many of the early settlers are buried in the adjoining cemetery. Taking a walk on the cemeteries of the Mennonite Church, the Blue Church, or the Friedensville Church is taking a walk in history. Many of the names on the old tax lists can be found on the grounds of these cemeteries.

Despite the many hardships the early settlers suffered by leaving their homeland and making the trip across the ocean, they prospered upon establishing new homes in America. The entire family worked HARD!! The adults had a hard life but so did the children. As soon as the children could walk, there were chores to be done. By the time the children were nine years old, they were an asset to the family: they could milk cows, feed the animals, take care of the vegetable garden, and help in the fields. Boys would be expected to manage a team of horses or oxen; the girls had to do all household chores.

When these early settlers arrived, they found a country waiting for someone to develop its many resources. Dependent upon the land to provide for their needs, they used the trees to build homes; the creek water was used to power the grist mills, the saw mills, the fulling mills and the oil mills. Grain

and vegetables were raised to feed the settlers and their animals. Flax was raised to provide the linen; together with the wool from the sheep they were able to make cloth for clothing and bedding. The tanneries processed the animal hides used for boots, clothing and harness. When iron ore was discovered in the area, it was dug and hauled to the smelters and the forges.

By the time the Revolutionary War broke out, the area was well established and local farms and mills provided food and horses for the Army.

In the early days Center Valley consisted of the grist mill, the tannery and possibly a dozen homes along the Saucon Creek. There are still several log houses in the area: Lester Fenstermacher's, William Towne's, and Ed Moyer's. Some of the stone homes may be just as old, or older.

In 1831 Michael Eberhard (Everhard) built a hotel where the road from Bethlehem met the road from Allentown. In 1836 the Eagle line of coaches started running from Allentown to Philadelphia and connections were made with the Bethlehem coaches. In 1848 James Wilt became the proprietor of the Hotel. A newspaper article found by Mrs. Lillian Haines in a scrapbook kept by her father, Ellwood Loux, described an interview with Mr. Wilt in 1896.

#### CENTER VALLEY . . . 48 YEARS AGO:

James Wilt, the aged father of John D. Wilt, proprietor of Wilt's Hotel, Center Valley, some years ago related to us the progress the village made since the time he came there, 48 years ago. From notes taken we are able to gather the following, which are his words as near as we can recall them:

Michael Everhard, who owned the store and Temperance House, "leased the same to George Wetherhold, who was granted a license nine months before I came here and became possessor of the Hotel in 1848. He also had the post office three months before my arrival, the office having been removed from Coopersburg and named Center Valley. John W. Ochs kept store and boarded with me. Later the store was sold to Jacob Jacoby, with whom we were neighbors for eighteen years."

"I was postmaster for four years, when the office was removed to the store, with Mr. Jacoby as postmaster. This was during President Pierce's administration. During President Lincoln's administration, I again became postmaster, which office I held continually until Cleveland's first term as president, a period of twenty eight years."

"When I came here there was no house, besides the store and hotel, except the one on the sixty acre farm of Mrs. Weirst. Later Mr. Everhard bought three fields on the opposite side of the turnpike from Joseph Fry. Mr. Everhard also bought two fields from Isaac Zyner, and sold one acre to the latter gentlemen on the other side of the pike. Zyner had remainder of Fry's fields and commenced to build. Isaac Zyner built the first house — a brick one next to that now occupied by Dr. Lowright. Later he built a frame house on the other side, now occupied by Jerry Swartz. The next house was that of Charles Seibert, followed by the one built by Godfrey Weirback, now James Wilt's. On the upper side the next was built by Daniel Koch, now that of Widow Weaver, followed by that built by Ed Shaffer, now that of Manasses Wint. The next house was built by Abraham Hottel, at present owned by John Emery. On the lower side the next house was built by Joseph Morey and is still owned by him. Next house was erected by Benjamin Swartz, at present that of Widow Peter Swartz. He also built the next house. The house at present owned by William Rumpfolt was the next one built. This structure was erected by Jonathan Swartz. Next was the dwelling of Joseph Leith, which was built by Enos Baringer, at present owned by Mr. Leith. The next house erected was a one and a half story stone house. This house was purchased by Rev. Samuel Moyer, who changed it to a two story structure. Isaac Zyner built two houses up at the woods, which are still owned by his widow. William Wittemer built the next house there, which was followed by that of John Wimmer, built by Jonathan Swartz. The old tollhouse was formerly a springhouse, owned by Willoughby Scheetz. Next Theresa Scheetz built a new house, and next to this is the old farmhouse of Mrs. Werst, at present owned by Charles Yeager. The next house is that of Allen Noll, which was built by Jonathan Swartz. The next property is that owned by Widow Hettie Swartz. Jonathan Swartz also built a wheelwright shop, which is now the Windsor Hotel. Aged Michael Everhard sold a lot to Charles Huff, who built the house, now Owen Shaffer's. The next house, occupied by Allen Huff, was built by Ed Shaffer. The house now occupied by Jacob Fink as a store was built by William Weiss. Ed Shaffer also built the next house, at present occupied by Sallie Swartz. The residence of Frank Mullen was built by Michael Everhard, and the store building by Maria Everhard. Abraham Yoder's house was built by Daniel Bergey."

"The bridge was built in 1876, the Centennial Year. The first house built on the other side was what is now

Fulmer's Hotel, erected by Joel Roth. There David Frey erected a store building. Then Henry Sell built a frame house, now occupied by Widow Beidler. Later Mr. Sell built a brick house at the corner, which is still occupied by him. The late John Harwi built the next house, followed by that of George F. Hartman. The next house was built by William Mumbauer, at present occupied by W. H. Snyder, Esq., followed by that built by Levi Landis and the one built by Daniel Schlotter. Then came those of Clayton Geissinger, Enos Hartman, Solomon Walter (deceased), Jacob Geisinger, Methodist Church, Daniel Mory, Henry Weitzel. Then a coal yard was established by John Harwi (now deceased). Later, he built a house, followed by that of William Mumbauer, and the establishment of a coal yard and feed house by George F. Hartman. Next David Frey built a new house, which was followed by those of Frank Mullen, Ephraim Moyer, William Kuhn, another by Ephraim Moyer, Jacob Young, Widow Funk, Widow Moyer, Mr. Shelly and Mrs. Stahler."

"For forty-five years I occupied by the hotel of which my son is now proprietor. During the beginning of my proprietorship the stages used to stop here to change horses. One started from Allentown early in the morning with four horses and waited at my place for the Bethlehem stage, when the mail was changed and taken to Quakertown. The old stage line changed at Coopersburg."

"On January 1, 1856, the first train passed up the North Penn Railroad to Freemansburg. At that time Coopersburg was our nearest station. At last we got a freight depot. We were not satisfied with this alone, and after considerable solicitation mostly on the part of Jacob Jacoby, Enos Erdman, Daniel Bergey and myself, we were successful in having a passenger station placed here."

The farmhouse of Mrs. Wurst, mentioned by Mr. Wilt, is still standing along Main Street; now, it is the home of Mr. & Mrs. Claude Buskirk and is probably the oldest house along the road. Wilt's Hotel, also known as the Grand Central Hotel, stood where Rt. #378 meets Rt. #309. When the intersection was widened and the new road to Bethlehem built in the 1920's, the hotel was razed. By then the automobile had become the American mode of transportation and new roads were needed.

Between 1853 and 1856 the North Pennsylvania Railroad was being built from Philadelphia north to Freemansburg. This was a huge job requiring the services of 2000 men and 500 horses. It opened a whole new era for the people in this area. Now, they could travel to Bethlehem and Philadelphia and all points in between with comparative ease. All types of products could now be shipped by rail. The area of Center Valley around the railroad became known as Milk Town because of the great quantity of milk that was shipped by the local farmers. According to the Bucks County Historical Society, Vol. VIII, two and one-half million gallons of milk were annually shipped to Philadelphia via the North Penn Railroad in the late 1870's. Fifty-eight locomotives were operated in 1876 and 1,310,000 passengers were carried in 1878. The North Penn Railroad merged with the Reading railroad on May 15, 1879.

The Center Valley Station handled both freight and passengers; it, also had a telegraph operator. The station was used until 1942 when it was closed. Mr. Earl Stauffer was the last stationmaster. In 1959 the station was demolished. According to the 1876 map, H. Sell had a coal and lumber yard on the east side of the railroad, just north of the station. Later, this became the site of the stockyard where horses and steers for the Stephens' farms were unloaded. The livestock would be chased to the farms at night; the Stephen's employees would carry lanterns for the animals to follow.

Today, the railroad is operated by ConRail. Ore and other products of the Bethlehem Steel Company constitute the majority of freight carried. The freight siding still stands in Center Valley and Long's Mill sometimes receives a carload of grain, or feed. Occasionally, other companies receive materials at this siding: PP&L had steel and wire unloaded for a high tension line and Buckeye Pipeline Company had pipe unloaded for their pipe lines.

Self-propelled Budd cars carry passengers between Bethlehem & Philadelphia. One of the stops along the line is Center Valley and quite a few area residents commute to Philadelphia every day.

Prior to the Civil War, Samuel Kaufman established a brick yard on his farm; it was later owned by Isaac Zyner. Located between the high school and the present Faith U.C.C. Church, it provided the brick for constructing the houses in Center Valley.

Most of the land to the north and west of Center Valley was owned by the Erdman family. A rich iron ore bed was formerly located at the present site of the Lehigh County Waste Facility. Near the Bethlehem Pike was the Wint family's iron mine. Along Camp Meeting Road were the iron mines of the Yeager Family. Limestone quarries and kilns were also on Erdman properties. Much of the limestone was hauled to Bucks County farms as there was no limestone to be found in that area. Since the iron industry also needed lime, some was hauled to Bethlehem. (Farmers who leased their land for limestone quarrying received a land lease royalty of twenty cents a ton.)

In 1875 the Allentown-Coopersburg Turnpike Company built the toll road which ran through Center Valley. A toll gate was located at an old stone spring house which stood between the Gehris and Knecht houses on Main Street. Later, it was moved to the house now occupied by Mr. & Mrs. James Geisinger. The tolls for light wagons were higher than the tolls for heavy wagons; the assumption being that the heavy wagons crushed the stones and improved the roadway. People (like Sol Stephens) who owned many wagons would pay toll charges by the month. The story is told that the Stephen's drivers became weary of dismounting each time they reached a toll gate and would just yell "Stephen's" and pass through without dismounting. Some enterprising souls began to do the same thing!!!! . . . eventually, Mr. Stephens realized that he was paying too many tolls!!! In 1910 the toll road ceased its operation.

Another business in Center Valley during the second half of the 19th and early 20th century was the Wheelwright and Blacksmith Shop located on the Bethlehem Pike, behind Wilt's Hotel. Started by Jonathan and Benjamin Swartz and Henry Theurer, they produced many large wagons and carriages. Later, this business belonged to Charles Schanz.

Around 1850 a second mill was built downstream from the first. Still in operation today, the mill is run by Mrs. Walter K. Long and her son, Walter F. Long. Today, it is the only mill left in a village that once contained three mills. George Bachman had built a feed mill on New Street in the late nineteenth century. In 1922 Clinton Kuhns and his son, Albert, bought the mill and installed milling machinery. The mill continued in operation until 1955, being operated for a short time by Elmer Bachman and then by Arthur Mack. After standing idle for a number of years, it was demolished in 1975.

Another description of early Center Valley was furnished by Albert Ohl, who was born in Center Valley on December 22 1867. In 1946 he wrote a book, "The History of Upper Saucon Township". One chapter . . . "Center Valley as I found it 75 Years Ago" has been condensed and the modern names of the streets been placed in parenthesis.

Since the descriptions of Main Street and Station Avenue are similar to those described by Mr. Wilt, we have deleted the duplications. Mr. Ohl described the houses on the east side of Main Street.)

Up at the woods was the schoolhouse, the land was donated by Daniel Yoder, now "Elim Grove". Then a little log house standing a little back of Yeager's Lane (Campmeeting Road) occupied by Robert Ohl, father of Albert Ohl. For many years Jennie Ohl, sister of Albert, lived here. Now along the Lanark Road, an old log house then occupied by Daniel Trenckler. Then another log house and shoemaker shop occupied by Amos Morey, a shoemaker. This was replaced by a big brick building about fifty years ago, now occupied by General Buckley. Next a mansion occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Carroll, built by Capt. H. Ed. Mullen about 1915. Then there was another small log house occupied by Francis Bernd, blacksmith. The old log house was replaced by a big brick mansion by Jim Bahl, now occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Lehr. Then there is a weather boarded log house occupied by Frank Hartman for a long time, now by his daughter, Leanna Old. This house stands at the junction of Buchecker's Lane (Valley Road). Along Buchecker's Lane lived then, on the right hand side in a log house, Joseph Kratzer, a tailor, grandfather of Victor Kratzer. Now a new house occupied by John Pietrobbon is on this site. Across the street lived Daniel Buchecker. About four years before his death, he built a large brick house near the site of an old log house, later occupied by his widow Nelly, later by his son, Jake and now by his grandson, George. Now again, along the old pike, a little old stone house then occupied by William Schmidt, later by Trenckler and now by Elmer Knerr. Then a large stone mansion, formerly a hotel and the first polling place in Upper Saucon Township. Seventy-five years ago it was occupied by William Weidner who kept summer boarders. The property passed then to his son, Rev. Revere Weidner, who bequeathed the place to a Chicago Theological Seminary who sold it to Pichlers. Turning back to Center Valley at the junction of the pike with (Blue) Church Road, stands a very old stone house, owned by Enos Erdman and his heirs until very recently when it was sold to Oliver Frankenfield. There are no houses on this side of the road until you get to Center Valley proper.

On the west side of Main Street is the brick dwelling of Jacob Geissinger, the miller. Next, a frame tenant house of Enos Erdman at the corner of the Philadelphia pike and the road leading to Blue Church (Liberty Road and Main Street). On that road is the mansion of Enos Erdman, businessman and farmer. About two blocks west, a log and frame house, Samuel Hartranft. One block west, the Peter Sell home, now Enos Keeler. Here was a rich iron ore bed operated by Enos Erdman. Now, following the Philadelphia Road again south from the Erdman tenant house, the toll gate shanty built in 1876. Next a frame house, Abraham Geissinger now Raymond Keck. Next the brick home of William Landis and the factory where he turned out lathe work, such as

rungs for chairs and handles of all kinds. Later it was the home of Charles Beck, a carpet weaver. Next another road turns off to Limeport (Mill Road). About one block along this road is the residence and grist mill of Jacob Yoder, later John Ritter. Turning back to the Philadelphia Road is the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church and cemetery. Turning north again on the east side of the Old Pike is the Saucon Mennonite Church. Then (Passer Road) the brick house of Jacob Bassler, a carpet and linen weaver; then, a stone home, residence of Mike Landis. Next is the Geissinger barn and grist mill. Also the saw mill and tenant house. Then the residence of Daniel Yoder. Now we are back to the Wilt hotel and store property. Also the residence of storekeeper, Thomas Ochs and the tailor, Fred Dietzell. Now, along the Bethlehem Pike was the wheelwright and blacksmith shop of Jonathan and Benjamin Swartz; Henry Theurer also was in the partnership. Here the big wagons were built to haul the parts of the big engine "THE PRESIDENT". Next was Jacob Frank's farm now occupied by Dr. W. J. Lowright Sr. Next where a private road intersects with the Bethlehem pike is the mill and house, then operated by Solomon Gehman, now Walter K. Long. East was a house and butcher shop operated by Arcus Shaffer. Another old log building that is still standing and occupied by Miss Polly Marsteller for many years, now by Elmer Shaffer. Next two houses then owned by Henry Hagey, now Elmer Bauder. These four residences are all east of the Saucon Creek. Then back to the Bethlehem Pike, north was the farm of Samuel Kaufman. Next the farm of Charles Koons. The next farm was Abraham Yoder and then the farm of Andrew Wint.

Many of the farms in the area were dairy farms. Milk was shipped to Philadelphia by train and to Bethlehem by trolley. It was also hauled to Allentown and Bethlehem dairies by wagon and by trucks.

There were also dairies and creameries in the area. John Yeakel built a dairy on Station Avenue, which was operated by his son, Albert, and later by Freeman's Dairy of Allentown. Later the building was used as a butcher shop by the Center Valley Meat Packing Company and it now houses Ossie and Sons Electric Company.

The Home Farm Dairy operated by the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church was also located on Station Avenue. The Sacred Heart Seminary now occupies the area of the Home Farm.

The Genman family operated the Spring View Dairy on Jacoby Road. Morris Gehman established the dairy in 1889 and in 1919 his son, George, became the owner. George and Grace Gehman operated the dairy until 1952.

Other people who had dairies and milk routes in the area were Erwin Shaffer, Earl Ritter and William Faust. The picture of the Schantz carriage shop shows a wagon with "Upper Saucon Dairies, P. Kelly" stenciled on the side. This must have been a very early dairy because no one remembers it.

Today, the only dairy farm in the area is the Urmy Brothers whose prize winning dairy cattle take the top prize at the Allentown Fair each year.

Besides the daily deliveries of the milkman, the housewives would buy most of their food at their front door from the butchers, bakers, icemen, and hucksters who came by. The stores sold basics in the early days: flour, sugar, salt, molasses and spices. Most of the people living in the Center Valley area had gardens which provided fresh vegetables for the table in the summertime; however, the housewife bought the vegetables and fruits for canning and drying from the hucksters.

Before the Industrial Revolution, the housewives made the clothes for the family. Or a dressmaker came to the house once, or twice, a year to make the dresses for the wife and daughters and the shirts for the men of the family. Tailors made the suits and pants for the men and boys; shoemakers provided the boots and shoes for the entire family.

Today the Laneco Department store located at the Coopersburg borough line provides the products and services of all the aforementioned vendors of days gone by. Center Valley at one time had three stores. The country store was really a department store. Besides the food items, they carried hardware, dry goods, and just about anything the customer required. What the store didn't carry, would be ordered from the city salesmen.

Oft times the storekeeper was also the postmaster. The position of postmaster was strictly a political appointment. The post office was normally located in one of the stores in town and at other times in a private home. In the 1920's the Post Office was moved to New Street and was located in the building which houses the Miller Lawnmower Shop. At that time Bert Lichtenwalter, who owned the lumber and coal business, was the Postmaster. In 1932 Oliver Gehris became the Postmaster. Then, postal employees became members of the Civil Service and in 1953 a rural route was established. Ralph Miller became the first rural carrier. By 1958, the Post Office needed more space and it was moved to its present location at the corner of New Street and Station Avenue where it serves nearly 1500 families. Ralph Miller has been the Postmaster since 1970.

Today, the Post Office is a busy place, just as in former years, as the local people came in to pick up their mail, mail packages, buy stamps and exchange comments.

The Socritarian, mentioned before, was the first public school in Center Valley. Later a brick school was



built across the street from the Socritarian. This school, along with the Penn school, located at Passer Road and Rt. #309, served the children of Center Valley and the surrounding area.

When the schools became crowded, the seventh and eighth grades were moved to the Chapel, the building across Rt. #309 from Station Avenue. By 1924 a bigger school was needed and the four room building, expanded to six rooms in 1942, (which is now the Administration Building) was built.

The Center Valley School then became the Maples Hotel. The Penn School became a gas station and confectionery store run by Annie Fluck, who was, for many years, the Democratic Committee woman of the Southern District of Upper Saucon Township. These two buildings were razed in 1970 when Rt. #309 was rebuilt.

Center Valley from the earliest days had a Justice of the Peace. The Justice was usually a well educated man: some were surveyors and wrote deeds; some wrote wills and other legal documents; they issued applications for the various licenses required by state and local government; served as judges in local disputes and performed marriages. Their length of term was long and locally the townspeople referred to them as "Squires". William Snyder served for 25 years. P.S. Fenstermaker for 10 years; O. J. Biehm for 10 years; Charles E. Biehm for 25 years; Franklin Lichtenwalter for 12 years; Joseph A. Haines for 17 years. After Mr. Haines' death in 1965, his wife Lillian served one year, the remainder of his term. Mr. Haines was also a State Health Inspection in Lehigh County from 1939 to 1955 and served as Republican Committeeman for the Southern District of the Township for 28 years.

After serving as a Justice of the Peace, Franklin Lichtenwalter was elected to the State Legislature and after serving several terms in Harrisburg, he was elected to the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress for one term.

In 1966 Gilbert Kemmerer was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace. He was the last of the Justices, along with Rollin Gaugler of the Northern District of Upper Saucon Township. In 1970 Upper Saucon, Coopersburg, and Lower Milford became District Court #31-3-03 with Charles Deutsch as the Magistrate; his office is on the second floor of the Coopersburg Town Hall.

The one thing that has remained the same in Center Valley over the changing years is the number of hotels. Of the three original hotels, only the Windsor (Charles Weil, proprietor) on Main Street remains. After prohibition ended, the Heidelberg Inn, at the intersection of Rt. #378 and Preston Lane, opened for business. Just recently this establishment changed hands and is now known as "We the People". The old school became the Maples Hotel. When the grist mill closed, it became a bar known as the Old Mill. Later, it was a night club operated by Eddie Sacks, the renowned "Indianapolis 500" race care driver. After his death in the 1964 race, the old mill became a teenage nightclub. The Mod Mill operated here until 1970 when the building was demolished by PennDot . . . as was the Maples and Flo's Bar (located on the northeast corner of Rt. #309 and Passer Road). On the southwest corner of the same intersection is The Idle Hour Inn.

Besides the Arco gas station and the Windsor Hotel, there are several other businesses on Main Street: the Country Boutique, specializing in women's clothes and accessories; the Wetzel's Garage; and Milton Eisenhard, the plumber. At the north end of town on Lanark Road is another plumber, Milton Harmony.

As mentioned before, Long's mill is still operating. They handle grain and feed for animals and pets and also seed and fertilizer. Behind Long's mill is the Covered Bridge. Here, Roy Laubach does furniture stripping and refinishing. He also custom builds Colonial Kitchens. Roy is the great-great grandson of Jacob Young, a well known millwright who built and maintained many of the area grist mills during the latter part of the nineteenth century. Roy's great-grandfather was George W. Boehm who hauled "The President" pump to the zinc mine and later owned the Friedensville Hotel.

On Station Avenue is the Ossie and Sons Electric Shop. On New Street is Miller's Lawnmower Shop and across the street is the Jo Sa Ceramic Shop where Sally Boyer conducts classes and sells ceramics and supplies.

The Upper Saucon Township Municipal building is located on Campmeeting Road; the township sewage plant is located at the south end of Preston Lane.

The Southern Lehigh School District has their Administration Office on Main Street in the former elementary building. The High school is on the west side of Preston Lane and the Middle School is on the east side. East of Center Valley, on Station Avenue, is the Allentown College of St. Francis De Sales.

In 1901 the trolley service from Allentown to Coopersburg was inaugurated, with the trolley tracks running down the middle of Main Street, allowing the people in Center Valley to commute to Allentown with ease. Thus, the residents started working; seeking higher education; and shopping in Allentown.

In 1909 the trolley service to Bethlehem was inaugurated and the residents now had the same ease of travel to this city as well. Residents in the area would walk several miles to the trolley lines to commute to both cities.

Initially, the residents of our area went to the cities to work and shop: it was now feasible for the city residents to come to the country. Dr. S. E. Rauch of Bethlehem bought 75 acres of land just beyond Center Valley, along the Bethlehem Pike, in 1920. This land included the Wint iron mine which was now filled with water. Dr. Rauch decided to create a resort in this lovely setting and called it Nirvana. He built a stone gateway at the entrance with NIRVANA on the arch; this can still be seen along the Bethlehem Pike. Today, it is the private residence of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Rauch, the doctor's son.

A booklet describing Nirvana was published by Dr. Rauch. The first paragraph was: "Just off the highway, out of sight of the road, exactly five and one-fourths miles from the Hill-to-Hill Bridge in Bethlehem on the road to Center Valley, lies a little Paradise, the newest natural pleasure grounds of the Lehigh Valley, called "NIRVANA"." The booklet goes on to describe the facilities, the bungalows and the community house available for the enjoyment of the public. A closing paragraph states:

"It is adjacent to the Saucon Valley Country Club at Friedensville, at Car Stop #36 on the Saucon Electric line between Bethlehem and Center Valley, ideally located for people of Bethlehem, Allentown and Easton, as well as for those who live in the adjacent communities."

For a few years this was a thriving business. However, in 1929, the trolley line ceased operations and the depression was upon the area. After the highway was built to Bethlehem, Dr. Rauch leased some of his land on the north side of the road for another recreational purpose . . . an Open Air Theatre. This was one of the first outdoor theatres in the area. It was primitive compared to today's theatres. There was a large screen and an amplifier at one end of the field. People walked, biked, or came by car and then, usually, sat on the grass and enjoyed the movie. A small stand beside the highway furnished refreshments. It operated from the late 1930's to the late 40's when the modern outdoor theatres were built throughout the area. The site is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Maxwell. Mrs. Maxwell is the daughter of the late Dr. S. E. Rauch.

Much has been said about the businesses in Center Valley, but what about the social life? In the early days most of the socializing was done at the churches and in the homes. Work became social events when the neighbors got together for corn husking parties. After husking corn until dusk, if there was a fiddler in the group they would enjoy some square dancing after the evening meal. The neighbors also got together for apple butter (loduarrick in Pennsylvania Dutch) cooking parties. This usually lasted several days. First the apples had to be peeled (schnitzed). Then the cooking began and lasted one whole day, but the pots of fragrant apple butter made all the work worthwhile. During the winter months people would meet at one of the local hotels and a sleighing party was held. After a sleigh ride, there would be refreshments and dancing in the hotel. Sometimes the school teacher would arrange to have a farmer with a large sleigh take the children to another nearby school and engage in a spelling bee or arithmetic bus.

The housewives would get together and have quilting parties. In later years the Ladies Aid Society members would get together to sew quilts in the church basements to raise money for the Church, a custom still practiced today. Church suppers and church picnics in the summertime were social events. Many a church was built and outfitted on the proceeds of the Church suppers.

The lodges were another form of social gatherings. They served the purpose of providing insurance in the form of sick benefits and death benefits for their members. One of the earliest lodges in the area was the Patriotic Order Sons of America. There was a lodge in Center Valley and also one in Spring Valley. Later Center Valley had the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the women had the Ladies of the Golden Eagle. They had their lodge hall above the store in the building that is across from the Arco gas station on Main Street.

Independent military companies existed in every township of the county and frequently assembled on battalion days for drill and maneuvers. In 1819 Capt. Joseph Wilt commanded the Mechanic's Rifle Company of Upper Saucon. In 1840 Captain Philip Pearson, a Justice of the Peace in the Township, commanded a company known as the Upper Saucon Rifle Rangers. At about the same time Enos Erdman was Captain of a Cavalry Company "The Saucon Troop". Mr. Erdman was a prominent businessman and also an Odd Fellow, Mason and Knight Templar. He was one of the founders of the Coopersburg F.&A.M. Lodge.

Baseball was the big sport in Center Valley. Its teams were well known in the area. The first baseball diamond was in the field where the Green Meadows housing development is being built. Later, another field along New Street was used. It was located where the Rikli and Tyson families now reside.

Leo and Frank Shaffer were avid ball players, especially Leo. In the early 1920's they built the baseball diamond at the Center Valley school which is still being used. After Leo quit playing baseball, he turned to coaching. He coached the Saucon Valley Legion Baseball team for a number of years. It was always a proud moment for Leo when the big league scouts signed one of his boys. About a half dozen of Leo's boys went into professional baseball. The only one to reach the big leagues was Jimmie Schaffer, the son of Charles and Emily Schaffer of Station Avenue.



In 1954, Jim signed with the St. Louis Cardinals; he also played with the Chicago Cubs, the Chicago White Sox, the New York Mets, the Phillies, and the Cincinnati Reds. For the last six years he has been with the Baltimore Orioles as a coach with their minor league teams. This year he was at Charlotte, N.C., an AA Club.

Leo Shaffer is also remembered by many people as the man who had the ice skating pond in Center Valley. This was the mill pond which at one time supplied the water power for Long's Mill. Leo had a shack with a pot belly stove at the side of the pond so that the skaters could warm up when it was bitter cold. He also put up lights for night skating. Leo was a driver-salesman for the Coopersburg Bakery for years. His other love was fishing and he spent many hours casting along the Saucon Creek.

Today, the people of Center Valley have the use of the school district athletic facilities for recreation. The Saucon Valley Living Memorial Park, which lies partly in Upper Saucon Township, also provides tennis courts, a baseball diamond, a football field, picnic grove, skating pond and a swimming pool. And just beyond is the Tumblebrook Golf Course.

The Theatre Group at the Allentown College provides entertainment from time-to-time for the theatre lovers of the area. The High School also provides entertainment in the form of plays and musical fetes each year; plus, the sporting events provided by their athletic teams. The Southern Lehigh Musical Theatre Group does an excellent production each year.

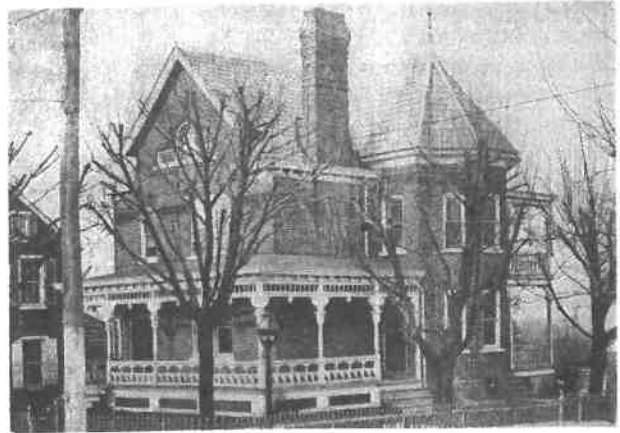
All in all, Center Valley is a rather pleasant place to live, just as it had been in years gone by.



Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Lowright. Dr. Lowright graduated in 1880 from Jefferson Medical College.



Dr. W. J. Lowright, Jr. and Dr. W. J. Lowright, Sr. Dr. Lowright, Sr. graduated in 1898 from Medico-Chirurgical College and Dr. Lowright, Jr. graduated in 1929 from the Temple University Medical School. Dr. Lowright, Jr. was also the grandson of Dr. Moulton J. Kline of Hoffmansville.



A 1920 postcard shows the residence of Dr. J. H. Lowright as it appeared at that time.

**BALD EAGLE HOTEL,**  
**J. A. FULMER, Proprietor,**  
*Centre Valley, Lehigh County, Pa.*

---

*Good Accommodations for the Traveling Public. Bar always  
 Stocked with Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars.*

---

**Reasonable Prices. First-Class Stabling is in Connection.**  
 .....**OPPOSITE THE DEPOT**..... [OVER]

Don't tell me you own a

♦

Or say, "Put it down on the slate;"  
 Although I have a good

♥

My brewer is not willing to wait.  
 There is always a man with a

♠

Ready to dig my grave if I bust;  
 So behind the bar I keep a big

♣

For all those who ask me for trust.

Shown are both sides of the business card for the Bald Eagle Hotel.



One of the three toll gate houses, is located on Main Street and Passer Road on the Coopersburg boundary line



The James Geissinger house on Main Street, was at one time the Center Valley toll gate location.



The last house on the Allentown-Coopersburg toll road, is located on South Main Street in Coopersburg.



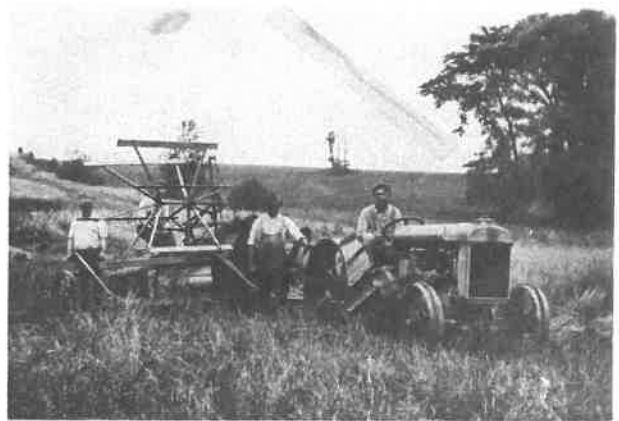
Althea Bauder at the stone quarry in Center Valley. Not too many people are aware of its existence, but in the early 1900's it was included on many geological tours or studies.



Daguerrotypes of Joseph Mory and wife, Matilda (nee Rice) Mory, early residents of Center Valley. He was a Civil War veteran, a member of Company "E", 176th Pa. Infantry. After his death on June 26, 1905, his widow received \$8.00/month as widow's pension. Mr. Mory, a descendant of William Mory who settled in the Lanark area, was an excellent carpenter and built his house without nails, using wooden pegs throughout.



The house built by Joseph Mory has never been sold. It now belongs to his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Lillian Haines, who lives with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Arlen Frankenfield and their daughters. The Frankenfield girls; Kim, Sheila, and Fawn are the sixth generation to live in this house.



Left to Right: Hired hand, Leo Schaffer, the son; Erwin Schaffer, the father, and Frank R. Schaffer, a son at work on Frank Kuhn's farm in Center Valley.

CENTER VALLEY ..... BETWEEN STATION AVENUE AND MAIN STREET



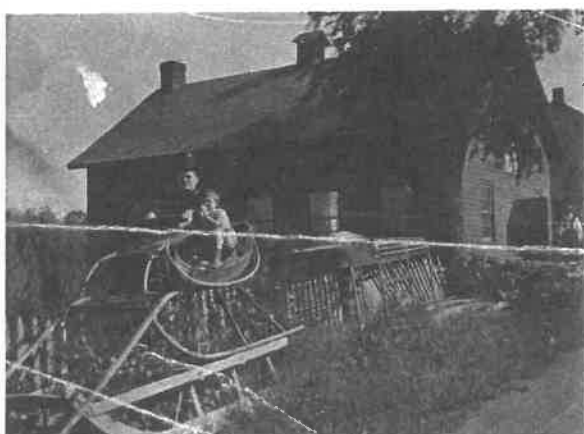
Mullen's Store at Main Street and Station Avenue. The Mullen residence is to the left of the store and trolley tracks are in the foreground.



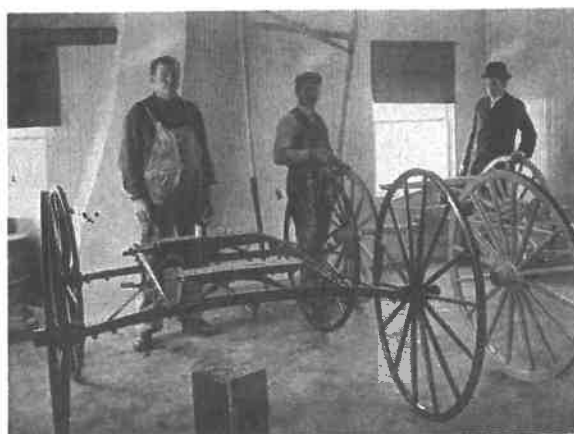
Inside view of the Mullen Store



Schanz Carriage Shop, originally known as Swartz and Theuerer ..... Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights. They built the large wagons used to haul the pump known as the President to the New Jersey Zinc Company. Also, they built the ore wagons for iron ore that were used to haul the ore from the local mines. Another product of theirs was the limestone wagons used in hauling lime to Bucks County.



The Schanz Carriage Shop from a different angle.



The interior view of the shop shows Charles Schanz in the middle of the picture. To his left is Ellwood Loux and to his right is Henry Mease.

CENTER VALLEY ..... MAIN STREET



A post office and store, this building (still standing) was also the meeting place of the Knights of the Golden Eagle. The building is located on Rt. 309 across from the Atlantic Gas Station.



The Grand Central Hotel was also demolished to allow for the widening of the intersection of Rt. 378 and Rt. 309.



Main Street, looking south ..... circa 1920.



The Breskirck house on Main Street. One of the oldest stone structures in this section of Center Valley.



CENTER VALLEY ..... ALONG THE OLD BETHLEHEM PIKE



This log cabin is owned by the Lester Fenstermacher family and is located across the creek from Long's Mill.



Beyond the Fenstermacher log home is the Elmer Bauder residence. The stone home to the right of the picture contains an 1802 date scratched beneath one of the windows.



Winter scene along the Bethlehem Pike when the trolley from Bethlehem ran along this road. The home (stone) belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Horace Bauder.



We couldn't resist this picture of Horace Bauder. He looks a little young to handle that "1916" touring.

CENTER VALLEY ..... STATION AVENUE



The County Bridge built in 1876 across the Saucon Creek.



A view of Station Avenue from the County Bridge. It hasn't changed a good deal since this 1920 post card.



The P & R Railroad Station.



The Center Valley Post Office established at this location in 1958. Mr. Ralph Miller, Postmaster.

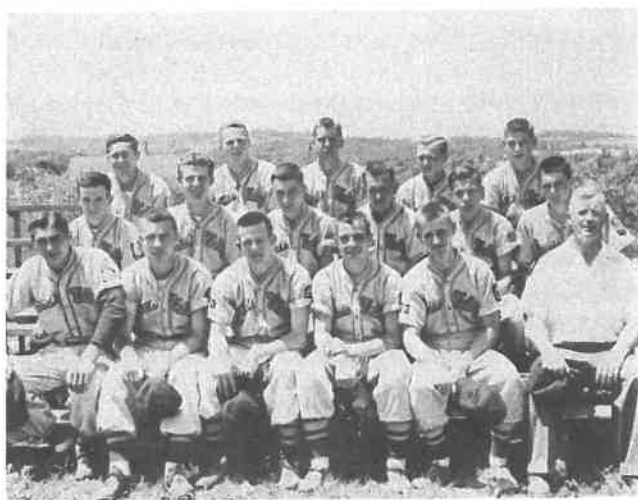




The H. L. Gross General Store on Station Avenue.

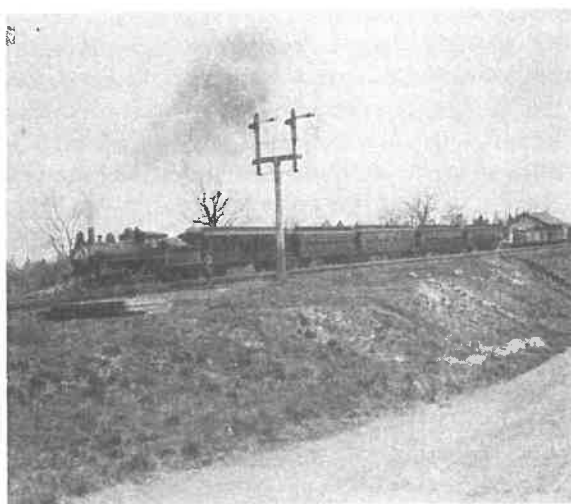


"Nirvana" as it appeared in the early 1930's along old Bethlehem Pike.



The 1952 Saucon Valley Legion Team: (Left to Right)

1st Row - Stanley Rice, Jim Snyder, Jim Moroney, Jim Schaffer, Herb Swoboda, Leo Shaffer  
 2nd Row - Joe Moroney, Rich Eckert, Dave Watkins, Allan Reiss, Ed Dreisbach, Don Eastburn  
 3rd Row - Luther Kemmerer, Curt Thieme, Harold Carl, Stewart Rice, Stanley Knerr



A passenger train of the 1920 era in an unidentified section of Center Valley.

## COOPERSBURG

*by Evelyn Borger*

As early as 1737, George Bachman acquired 300 acres of land in the lower end of Upper Saucon Township. This comprised a large area which is now known as Coopersburg.

Mr. Bachman saw a great need for a stopover for people traveling between Bethlehem and Philadelphia. (Philadelphia was the seat of government at that time.) In 1745, he built a large log hotel and named it DER SIEBENSTERN (Seven Stars). This building stood a bit north of the present Coopersburg Fire Company Social Hall.

A shed for the horses was under the same roof as the hotel. This served two purposes: firstly, the warmth of the animal's body provided some warmth for the hotel and secondly, the animal's safety from theft was assured. The building itself was of "squared logs, lathed and plastered on the outside of a yellow tint with white lines drawn to imitate stone blocks" as per Milton Cooper's memoirs.

It is quite possible that many years later, log sheds were erected to care for the horses and wagons. The hotel served its purpose until 1820.

Mr. Bachman sold tracts of his land the size of small farms. Log houses, barns, blacksmiths and wheelwright shops began to appear northward and southward from Der Siebenstern. The village families were quite self-sustaining . . . . . each with their own chickens, "porkers", horses and bountiful gardens.

The early log houses were very crude with earthen floors, but by the time Mr. Bachman built the Siebenstern the logs were hewn and clay filling was plastering the spaces between the logs. In the very early days it was reported that a hungry wolf thrust his nose through the cracks of an unplastered house and bit a man's head!

By 1745 one could distinguish the status of a man by his log house. If the logs were peeled, it was a mark of quality. If they were squared and hewn, as was Bachman's Inn, this denoted wealth and dignity.

Nails were made by the blacksmith, fireplaces were very large to provide enough heat, pillows and sacks were filled with mistletoe, or cotton from the "milk weed". The prosperous families used feathers.

Once floors were put into homes, they were dry rubbed with sand. In some cases the parlor floors had fancy designs.

Dishes were of wood or pewter. Meat and corn were roasted on the open fire. Dried peaches might be cooked with meat and poke leaves were often boiled for spinach.

Before Coopersburg was in existence wood was the universal fuel. Lighted with a tinder box and flint, fire was a precious possession and was preserved with great care. It was carefully covered with ashes at night, so that some embers remained in the A.M.

Little has been recorded from 1745-1820. According to tax records, George Bachman's son was the second proprietor of the Hotel, while another son built the first permanent house which is still in use (Norcross Funeral Home) in 1790.

By 1775 another family name entered the village scene . . . . . Daniel Cooper emigrated from Holland to Goshenhoppen, Montgomery County. He married a girl from Goshenhoppen, and moved to Coopersburg. Tax records show that he, too, operated the hotel and probably lived there until 1800, when he built a substantial stone house, barn, and woodshed at what was then the southern most part of the village (314 South Main Street). Their sixth child, Peter, who was born in 1790 was to grow up in the Cooper homestead and play a very important role in the growth of the town.

While young Peter was growing up at the South end of Main Street, a prominent figure appeared at the North end of the village. This was Honorable Joseph Fry, Jr., who built several homes at the Northern end of town. Martin Kern 367 North Main and Stopps Mill . . . at the entrance of Willowbrook. He bought the Siebenstern, built a distillery along the Saucon Creek east of the Hotel, a

stone warehouse to store whiskey, and a store alongside the Hotel. He made the first attempt at postal service. So influential was Mr. Fry that the village was called Fryburg for about fifteen years. After awhile Mr. Fry returned to his statesman activities; he was elected to the State Legislature, the Constitutional Convention of 1837-38, and later to Congress. Fry was considered quite a statesman and during his congressional term was visited here by James Buchanan (who was afterwards the President of the United States).

Meanwhile, Peter Cooper had grown to manhood and began building a newer, larger town. In 1829, young Peter Cooper built a stone hotel slightly to the south of the Old Tavern. He named it the Eagle Hotel and, soon thereafter, sold it to Joseph Doer who added the front porch across the entire building. By 1868, David Barron was the owner and the name was changed to the Barron House. The name remained until the Coopersburg Fire Company purchased the building in 1941 and restored it.

For twenty years after it was built, the Eagle Hotel was the hub of the town's activities. It was the polling place for the lower end of the Township and the first elections after Coopersburg was incorporated were held in the Hotel. It was the stopping spot for stagecoaches . . . . . which meant meals were served to the traveler, hot baths were very necessary after the dusty or muddy roads (whichever of the two was seasonable), hair cuts and shaves were part of the "freshening up" process. The hostler in charge of the stables was busy checking the horse and shoes, feeding and grooming the animal — especially if it was a part of a political entourage.

The hotel and store were open every day of the week. It was the gathering place for household sales, shooting matches, horse races, and "frolics".

"The Sales" (Fendues . . . . . in Pennsylvania Dutch) served many purposes. Besides the sale of the goods and "chattels" there were also picnics on those days. Old and young of both sexes from far and near congregated. Lifting weights, throwing quoits, jumping, and wrestling were indulged in during the day and frequently there was a dance in the evening. More than once a court of justice was held at the sale. If two neighbors "fell out" with each other, the issue was tried at the next sale.

Life in this era was not all work and no play . . . . . "Sunday school and community picnics were great favorites at this time, and were well attended by both young and old. In summer, the Sunday school was taken to the picnic grove with teams singing hymns along the way. Swings were fastened to the trees, and ropes tied to several trees to play games. The tablecloths were spread out over the grass at a clean and shady place, and covered with food. When the dinner bell was rung, all scrambled for the table or sat down on the grass then, after grace, everyone started to help themselves. After dinner the women cleaned up and the young started to play games and enjoy themselves. Sometimes a pastor came on the scene to make an address, which could not be short enough for the young people. After all, they came out to have a good time! The picnickers started for home just in time to be back before dark, singing their Sunday school hymns, showing they had enjoyed their day's outing."

"The Community picnics were also great affairs generally sponsored by a society, a club, or lodge. They put up dance floors, provided good orchestras for the dance music with an occasional brass band. Stands sold soft drinks, ice cream, watermelons and all kinds of refreshments. At many places, beer was also on tap. Emmaus, Center Valley, and Locust Valley were the favorite picnic places for this community. The picnic season was opened on Whit-Monday, which was a special festival day for this community. It was on this Sunday and Monday that one would see their new falling-top buggy, well fed horses, freshly cleaned and sponged, or a new harness with silver ornaments and trimmings, and a new horse-whip in the whip-socket. The young man wore a new hat, a silky, gloves and a duster, and a spring blanket protected him and his lady friend from the dust while going to some dedications, picnic, or festival. These picnics continued through the months of June, July, and August and were held on Saturday afternoons and evenings. They were well patronized by the young people of those days."

"The main attraction and life of these picnics was a kissing game called "Cocagne Hagann", or something similar. A rope was fastened to different trees forming a circle, the male and female wishing to take part in the game took hold of the rope, several boys and girls going inside of the rope, then trying to tag their opposite. If he then caught her before she reached her place of refuge he was entitled to give and take a kiss, and she took his place inside of the rope. If she got away, he was out of luck. The more trouble she made to be caught the livelier was the play, and the more it was enjoyed."

"Funerals at this time differed widely from those of today. After the death of a person, the neighbors came together to make the funeral arrangements, which were many: one went to see the minister, another was sent to the undertaker. This one may have cut a stick the length of the corpse; he cut a notch to give the width across the shoulders, or he might use a string with a knot tied in it. At this time, before the icebox came in general use, there were men and women in the neighborhood who volunteered to take care of the corpse, and the undertaker would not come until the day of the funeral. With this date decided, messengers were sent out to apprise the relatives and friends of the death of their friend and the date of the funeral. The pall bearers had to be selected, and they were also required to dig and prepare the grave; hostlers had to be procured to take charge of the teams and feed the horses; a handy-man to bring things in for the cooks; cooks and waiters had to be procured to bake bread and pies and cakes, boil the coffee, etc. If a large attendance was expected, a calf was slaughtered. The people who came from a distance were invited to take a cup of coffee and something to eat before the funeral services started."

"During winter weather the corpse was kept in a cold, dark room and in summertime ice put around it. If there were mice, or rats, around, a lighted candle was placed near the corpse, and sometimes two men kept watch during the night. Later the corpse was placed in an icebox and packed with ice and salt and salt-peter rags.

"The funeral was always held in the forenoon, with short services at the house, and further services at the church. The funeral director was supposed to drive slowly. They would not want the deceased rushed to the cemetery . . . . . so, if we started out when the services at the house were finished, we could walk over to the St. Paul's (Blue) Church, a distance of 2-½ miles, in time for all services. After the funeral services, all were invited to return to the mourner's home where dinner was provided for all. Many returned as it gave them an opportunity to see their relatives and friends who might happen to be there, too. After the guests had taken their dinner, they asked the hostlers to get the teams and then returned to their homes. All horses were fed and watered before they were sent away."

"Coffins were of black walnut lumber, made to order, in the undertaker's cabinet shop. An adult coffin, including a white pine case and a two-inch thick white oak plank cover, a row of bricks at the top around the case laid flat, and the funeral director's services cost no more than \$35.00 — \$40.00. A white merino shroud, ice, nameplate, handle bars, and special merino coffin trimmings were EXTRA CHARGES!"

One year after building the hotel, Mr. Cooper built the stone store across the Main Street. The most recent owner of that building was Menno Wismer. After a century and a quarter, this building was razed to make room for the Coopersburg branch of Merchants National Bank. The design of this building was very similar to the Eagle Hotel.

He then built a house farther south on Main Street than his childhood home (the Sacred Heart Home) where he and Susanna (nee Buchecker) lived with their family of three sons: Milton, Charles,

and Thomas and a daughter: Matilda. In 1832 the townspeople felt that Peter Cooper had indeed proven himself a "favorite son" and Fryburg became officially known as Coopersburg. It was not yet incorporated as a borough; but the name was never changed again.

The Peter Cooper home was a beautiful stone building with a portico over the front entrance. After Peter Cooper's death, his son, Thomas (a physician), lived there until 1862. Thomas Cooper's son, Tilghman S. Cooper, Sr., acquired the home and made many changes, each one enlarging and improving it until it became the beautiful "*Linden Grove Farm*", the famous home of the Jersey cattle. In 1937 it was sold to Sacred Heart of Allentown and for thirty years it was a home for orphan children, a trade school, and a chapel for the community.

Thomas Cooper, Peter's son, was a physician in Coopersburg for a short time when he was elected to Congress for the Sixth District of Bucks and Lehigh County.

Milton Cooper was a merchant. He left the village early in his life and "after coming to Philadelphia, wearing boots, to serve his apprenticeship, they told him he had a good understanding (his boots)! Later he engaged in the shoe business for himself having an extensive trade in nearly every state of the Union. He built a home on Station Avenue (502 Station Avenue) and retired here in 1863.

Charles, the third son, studied law and served successfully as Superintendent of Schools in Lehigh County. He served on the Board of Trustees of Muhlenberg College, Allentown Female College (now Cedar Crest), and became the President and Cashier of the Allentown National Bank.

Matilda married Dr. Frederick Martin and lived in Germantown, Philadelphia.

In 1850 the I.O.O.F. building was erected and served as a Town Hall until 1930, when the present Town Hall was erected. All the lodges met there as did the Moravian, Lutheran, and Reformed Congregations, and Sunday Schools.

In 1856 the North Penn Railroad was opened for traffic. The Baldwin House and more homes were built near the railroad. A Coal and Lumber Yard, Cigar Factory, Basket Factory, Barber Shop, Blacksmith and Saddle Shop made that part of Coopersburg hum with activity.

With train service, the mails began to move freely and a Post Office was begun. It was moved several times until it found a permanent home.

On the Main Street, carriage factories sprang into being. Fine carriages were custom made here for very particular customers around the nation: Jordan Carriage Factory opened about 1850 and Kern carriages made their appearance in 1865.

By 1861 there was one store, two hotels, one tannery, one carriage shop, two blacksmiths, one wheelwright, one coal and lumber yard, one tinsmith, one cobbler, one saddler, one carpet weaver, one tailor, one grist mill with wool carding machinery, one saw mill and bending works, one butcher shop, two carpenter shops, one undertaker, one clock repairer, one brick kiln, two physicians, one school building, one railroad, and one post office.

In 1861, a boy of 9 years moved to the town. Genaah Jordan was to grow up and play an important role in Coopersburg's growth. A carpenter thru apprenticeship, he was to draw plans for many of the buildings which are standing today. The story of his family moving to Coopersburg follows: "One morning in April, 1861, several teams stopped in front of our house (Emaus) and I was told they were here to move us to Coopersburg. Then taking the stove out (a wood burning stove) loading it on a wagon together with the cooking utensils, the fire wood, and the eatables, the team started for Coopersburg. The stove had to be set up and the house warm by the time the family arrived. Then some of the furniture was loaded on a hay wagon drawn by two horses. The straw filled bedding, quilts, clothing, feather ticks, etc. were piled on top of the furniture. After Mother, sister Alice, and I had been helped on the wagon, we were given feather ticks and quilts for covering. We then started for our new home, the rest following as they got loaded and two boys driving the cow, following the teams.

"On the way to our new home we came through Vera Cruz and Limeport, past the Blue Church and at the top of the hill (where Harvey Baus now lives), I got my first view of Coopersburg."

The Civil War years were lean ones and building and all progress came to a halt. Civil War

uniforms were being sewn in the area by the light of kerosene lamps.

The war was over and a big building boom followed. The village was growing by leaps and bounds and all kinds of new business sprang up. A pharmacy which later became a hotel (the Van Ness House); two more stores — one east of the railroad (Trumbauers) and the other at Station Avenue on Main Street (last owner — Leigh Mac Arthur); Kern's Carriage Shop and later Fabian's Carriage Shop; a Basket Shop; Tinsmith Store; Cabinet Maker Shop; plus, many dwellings. Summer boarders were seeking out spots in Coopersburg as well as in various parts of Upper Saucon Township for summer vacations. Since the Bachman Inn, "Der Siebenstern", was built, the village had come a long way.

The Allentown-Coopersburg Turnpike made its appearance in 1875 uniting with the Bethlehem to Philadelphia Turnpike in Center Valley. It was a toll road and, therefore, not too popular.

The population and business density in Coopersburg's "territorial mile" was creating all kinds of problems. Upper Saucon Township covered 14,000 acres, much of this land being large farms. The needs of the farmer were a far cry from the needs of the townspeople and the existing laws and tax monies could not meet the demands of both. The town needed paved streets if the building trade was to expand. It needed sidewalks and street lights so that the merchants could sell their wares. The greater population was severely taxing the Odd Fellows Hall. Coopersburg needed churches and schools. In fact, the laws which had governed them as Upper Saucon inhabitants no longer covered the needs of the families living in close proximity.

The pleas of town leaders became louder and louder and finally the petitioners triumphed and a charter was granted the Borough of Coopersburg. Genaah Jordan, now 27 years of age, was showing great ability in leadership and was instrumental in furthering civic projects until his 92nd year when he retired from public life.

Coopersburg grew rapidly and prospered. More than fifty years later the fates were to intervene and a merger was formed between Upper Saucon and Lower Milford Townships and the Borough schools. Whereas at one time the laws of the farms did not meet the requirements of the Village cousins, the combined taxes of the Borough and the Township were now needed to meet requirements of the State to continue Public Education programs. Thus, much of the original 14,000 Acres is reunited, officially known as the Southern Lehigh School District.

NOTE: Quotations inserted in this chapter were from Genaah Jordan's History of Coopersburg and articles published in the newspaper and written by Jordan.

## SAUCON VALLEY LIVING MEMORIAL

Near the end of World War II the school board called a general meeting to organize a living memorial. This memorial would represent the efforts of the Southern Lehigh and Saucon Valley area. First elected officers were E. F. Eastright — President, Burnett Bear — Vice-President, and Mrs. Laura Wavrek — Secretary and Treasurer.

Various organizations were helpful in the founding and financial arrangements, including the American Legion, Lions Club, Patterson Estate, Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Company, Borough Council, Royal Manufacturing, Air Raid Wardens, Zephyr Mills, and the D. V. Smith family.

During the years after 1946, the efforts of many committees and fund raising activities gradually improved the original tract of land. The construction of bleachers, flag pole, and baseball field put the new park in the public eye.

In 1949, a Constitution was established. More ball fields were built and tennis courts were designed. In the 1950's, the grounds took shape. The Boy Scouts were now using the Park as a meeting place. Fund raising committees were able to arrange excellent affairs such as Carnivals and Horse Shows. The generosity of the people, business firms and area organizations helped keep the Park financially in shape. Coopersburg and Upper Saucon Township supported a large portion of the total cost.



The Pool Association and Little League have leased sections of land to perform their functions. They are on the Parks ground, but have their own responsibility.

To date the Association consists of: a large picnic area with two pavilions; tennis courts; baseball fields; basketball courts; ice skating (Winter); nature trails; a community building with a capacity of 120 people. The community building is used for civic events and is available for private parties, receptions, banquets and various social events.

The Park as it stands today is a place where one can come and relax or enjoy recreational activity. It is ideally located and offers convenient access within the Southern Lehigh area.

The 1976 Directors are Robert Uhl — President; Thomas Tilley — First Vice-President; James Kilian — Second Vice-President; James Bonner — Secretary; Roy Nelson — Treasurer; and Robert Uhl — Grounds Chairman.

## COOPERSBURG LIONS CLUB

The Golden Anniversary Dinner on March 26, 1976 culminated fifty years of dedicated service by the Coopersburg Lions Club to needy organizations that cover the local to international level. Almost \$53,000 has been raised to date by club members and then contributed to over fifty worthy organizations. Many Southern Lehigh groups have shared in this money, along with the Red Cross, TB, Cancer and Heart Funds, and other similar charities.

The Lions Club has sixty-five members with an average service of over fourteen years. Present officers are: F. DeWitt-President; W. Hallowell — 1st V.P.; R. Woodring — 2nd V.P.; R. Datesman — 3rd V.P.; R. Turck — Recording Secretary; K. Borger — Financial Secretary; G. Kressley — Treasurer; D. Young — Tail Twister; A. Madle — Lion Tamer; W. Hottenstein, W. Norcross, P. Castiello — Directors.



The Barron House as it appeared in the early 1900's.  
Note the attire of the wedding party!



Knerr's Store





The Van Ness House .... first a pharmacy and in later years a hotel. Located at the intersection of Main Street and Station Avenue in Coopersburg.



Another view of Main Street in Coopersburg showing the Post Office.



Fairview Street in Coopersburg showing many of the earlier homes. Note the hitching posts in front of each dwelling.



The Sacred Heart Home ..... located on Main Street in Coopersburg. The former home of Peter Cooper and his wife: Susanna (Buchecker). They raised their family Milton, Charles, Thomas, and Matilda at this location. Thomas Cooper (physician) lived here until 1862. His son, Tilghman S. Cooper, Sr. enlarged the building and it became the famous LINDEN GROVE FARM. In 1937 the property was sold to Sacred Heart and became the home for orphans.



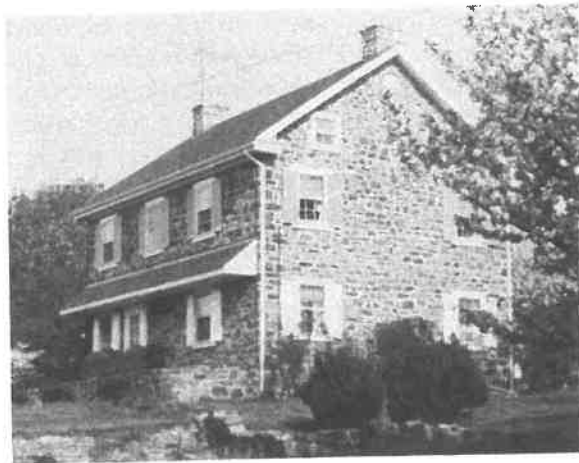
Vincent Mazzitelli Home, S. Main Street at Hilltop Road.



A view of Horse Shoe Bend looking south towards Coopersburg. The area is now included in the Tumble Brook Golf Course.



The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Station located on Station Avenue in Coopersburg. This particular picture is from 1908.



DeWitt Home.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF THE LANARK AREA

*by Mrs. Wittman*

The famous local landmark on Lanark Road was originally built by Charles Wittman, son of Frederick Wittman and his wife Mary Magdalena (Molly) Knepley.

Oft times referred to as the "haunted house" due to its distinctive architectural characteristics; this home was often used for summer guests; it was never a hotel. In fact, the house (which was built around 1853) was known for the charm of its setting as far away as Philadelphia and New Jersey. The name of Lanark was applied to this small village when Mr. Wittman became the Postmaster. Due to the large volume of mail generated by the guests and the fact that he had to go down to Center Valley to pick up the mail, he applied for establishment of a Post Office closer to his own area. The request was granted and when it came time to name this Post Office, a guest suggested that it be called after his home in Lanarkshire, Scotland, since this area reminded him so much of his old home.

The charming Victorian structure on the corner of Lanark Road and Vera Cruz Road has oft times been referred to as the Post Office and a Toll House. It was, indeed the post office; however, it was never a toll house.

Early photographs and post cards show this establishment in an idyllic setting surrounded by magnificent country. In front of the frame building stood two fountains; the outlines of which can still be seen. The water for these fountains was generated by a spring located near the present 309 By Pass. Mr. Wittman bought the water rights for this property from Dr. Boyer, of Coopersburg.

Alongside the little Post Office building is a dirt lane leading up the mountainside. There is a stone house back there which was a Wittman house at one time; the building is definitely earlier than the Victorian structure on the corner. In the same lane but to the left of the stone house stood, in the mid 1800's a stone mill with a water wheel. In here Charles Wittman distilled birch bark by STEAM.....years before anyone else thought of using the technique for this type of application.

Mrs. Wittman recalls that there had originally been two stone houses in this area: one was known as the White House because of the white stucco, the other was known as the Brown House. Ed Reinbold who named Summit Lawn was born in the White House; in later years he lived in the house across from the Lutheran Church on the border line of Upper Saucon and Salisbury on Old Route #309. This house was on the right hand side of the road going North. An Indian Cemetery was in the area of the White Stone House. Mrs. Wittman has a child's tomahawk that was found in this field.

Behind the Victorian manse was a large stone barn; the building was stone on three sides and frame on the fourth. The building is no longer standing. The entire mountainside was in vineyards at one time; even today the wild grape arbors cover the mountainside.

Proceeding from Wittman's Corners west on Vera Cruz Road we come to another old stone building on the "S" Bend. Mrs. Wittman recalls this as being a very old stone house. John Schneller lived here at one time, as did the Slifer's.

Proceeding south on Lanark Road from Wittman's Corners, the farm that the Monastery now occupies was owned by the Haas Family. The house now owned by the Brandis's was Al Rumfields (as well as the barn on the same side of the road but opposite the house) and he did horseshoeing here for a long time.

At this time Knerr's store was owned and operated by Mr. Drumbauer. Crossing the Saucon Creek we reach the Wittman homestead. Prior to the post office at Wittman's Corners, the Wittman's and the Knepley's ran the Post Office in the addition to the main house (1842-1862). At this time the area was known as the Saucon Valley Post Office. Passing the stone barn, we approach the stone house (now a double house) currently owned by Schlener's. In this house (which was the tenant house on the original homestead) Charles Wittman was born.

Across the road from the old homestead is the farm now owned by Franklin Lichtenwalner. During the period before the Trexler family bought this farm, Newberry Ulmer was the store owner and the post master (1902). The Trexler family lived in the house owned by Lichtenwalner's. The house was owned by Issac B. Meyers.....his daughter married Rev. Hibschan. After the Trexler family moved out, Preston Lichtenwalner moved in (incidentally, this is the old Horlacher homestead.)

Proceeding down Lanark Road to the intersection of Hopewell Road, we find another stone house . . . . . this is where Rice's lived. Further down Lanark Road in the area of the present day Schnellman's development was a large stone house that was a summer resort.

Proceeding from Wittman's Corners east along Oakhurst drive we find the family of Levi and Eliza Horlacher (brother and sister) who lived in a small house on the mountain. Here they made willow baskets. The large stone house now lived in by the Metzger Family was the Solomon Mory farm.

Miss Hellner owned Mory land; she took one of the Mory girls to live with her but can't remember which house.

On Saucon Valley Road East where Leroy Stahler currently lives was the Edwin Mory house. When Edwin retired he built Mrs. Reed's house which is up by Wittman's Corners. He also built the little stone house where William Walters lived. Edwin had a son Edwin and a daughter, Minnie, both of whom are dead. The Stone House behind the Lanark School House on Route 309 (no longer standing) was also Mory property. Edwin Mory's parents lived there.

We questioned Mrs. Wittman as to the location of the pottery: the only pottery she remembered was Stahl's pottery at Powder Valley. Questioning whether the tannery on Limeport Pike (on Bessie Knecht's property) had ever been used for some other purpose she answered "no" — it had always been as it now stands.

## LOCUST VALLEY

*By Constance A. Cowen*

The intersection of Blue Church Road and Locust Valley Road (also called Steinsburg Road) is the heart of Locust Valley. The village has gradually changed from a business and commercial center in colonial times to what in the Bicentennial year is almost an entirely residential community.

Locust Valley was once a community with a post office and general store, a schoolhouse that was operated between 1880 to 1941, a foundry that employed 40-50 people year round, a tavern, a blacksmith shop, a copper mining venture that didn't get underground and a tannery. And before all that, there was a trading post (still standing) on a lane off Beverly Hills Road.

The general store, at the southwest corner of the intersection, was the last of that collection of commercial ventures to close. It ceased operation with the death of proprietor Harold E. Carl in 1969. The store had been in operation for more than 100 years.

What exists in the Bicentennial year is a conglomeration of restored old homes, some new ones and an assorted collection of barns — some deteriorating, some bright with new paint — that testify to a larger farming operation on the surrounding lands in past generations.

At the Bicentennial year, there is still at least one backyard outhouse in business in the village — though the township installed sewers in most of the area in the early 1970's.

Halfway up Locust Valley Hill is the 1789 farm homestead of the Wambold brothers, Paul and Charlie. It was something of a sensation in the area several years ago when the Wambolds had electricity installed in their home shortly after their father died in his 90s. It was perhaps the last holdout in the township against electricity.

Paul Wambold is a gunsmith, and sometimes on Sunday afternoons the sound of rifle fire carries across the village as customers test Wambold's wares on the farm.

The only other artisan in the village is J. Stuart "John" Wetselle, 77 in this Bicentennial year, who is a painter whose landscapes include the village foundry and the Wambold farmhouse.

Much of the material for this village history comes from articles Wetselle wrote in the 1930's for *The Morning Call* when he was its Locust Valley correspondent.

Wetselle's writings note that the village of Locust Valley was settled about 1735 by German immigrants. The first store to which the early settlers came to barter was a "Trading Post", about a half mile to the west of the village on what was then an old back road leading from the Locust Valley Schoolhouse to Limeport. The building, probably erected in the 1730's, remains. Tradition has it that the Trading Post was in line with a bridal path leading from the Blue Mountain to Philadelphia.

The community was known to the Indians as "The Valley Watered by Many Springs." The first white settlers called the place "Die Gass." (the valley)

But the name Locust Valley came from a long avenue of locust trees planted by a man named George Foering about 140 years ago. Many remain on the country club grounds. A few are left in the heart of the village.

The first store to operate in the village was opened about 1840 by Amos Harding in the large building on the northwest corner of the intersection. William Trumbauer kept the store during the Civil War period and on until 1867 when it went to the Weaver family.

The purchaser was Peter Weaver Sr., and his son Peter, who had clerked for Trumbauer, ran it for a year when his father died. Another son, Al Weaver, "took on the store property at its appraisal figure" to assume the business.

Young Peter wanted to continue in the store business, so he rented half the hotel building on the southwest corner, right across the street from his brother Al's business.

Sympathy in the area was on Peter Weaver's side and on moving day the neighborhood turned out enmasse and helped him move his stock free of charge. Also, he retained the goodwill of his old

customers and they continued to patronize him liberally at his new location. Brother Al's store was short-lived.

In 1868, Peter Weaver was appointed postmaster and served in that capacity until the advent of Rural Free Delivery in 1904, when the office was discontinued.

In 1908, Weaver sold out his store business to Elmer H. Carl, though he continued with his successor for six years. Elmer Carl and then his son Harold E. successively ran the business until the younger Carl's death. The store became an apartment after that.

George Marsteller (Mosteller), George Bachman and Henry Rumfeld, three Locust Valley property owners, were among the original signers of the petition to incorporate Upper Saucon as a separate township in 1742.

Dubbs Tannery came into being in the mid 1800s on what is now part of the country club. The tannery and gristmill were located just across the road from what are now the main country club buildings. They were razed in 1928.

The tannery employed the old oakbark process in tanning hides and was a heavy buyer of bark. The Dubbs family, first Daniel and then son John, operated the tannery for more than 40 years. They tanned hundreds of hides annually and sold their products through commission houses in such places as Allentown and Philadelphia.

The Locust Valley Iron Foundry once stood in a hollow along a dirt lane about two blocks south of the village intersection. The lane is now part of Blue Church Road S.

It was launched about 135 years ago by Jacob Weaver. The plant for many years was operated by the founder's two sons, David and Nelson Weaver. Subsequent proprietors were Beitler & Mohry; then by Eugene Mohry; Hersh & Hartman, and then by Harvey Hersh in his own right.

Upon Hersh's removal to Coopersburg about 1930, the place was abandoned. Wetselle wrote that when the foundry was in its heyday, it furnished steady employment to 40-50 men the year round. Heavy castings were made for milling machinery, as well as other kinds of farming machinery. For a time, the owners turned their attention to the manufacture of thrashing machines.

The foundry was operated by waterpower, which was supplied by a branch of Saucon Creek and which was stored up in a dam directly across the lane from the foundry.

The foundry occupied four buildings. On the first floor of the main building was the machine shop, while the second floor was devoted to the pattern making department. The sand pits were in another building. A third housed a blacksmith shop. A warehouse stood about 40 feet removed from the other three buildings.

A fire about 1 a.m. on March 30, 1936, leveled all the buildings except the warehouse.

Another landmark in the community was a blacksmith shop operated for 45 years by William Schonenberger. It was located near the foundry. Schonenberger sold it in the winter of 1946-47 and the new owners converted it into a home.

One feature of the shop was the horseshoeing "stock". The interview noted that there were few of these "strait jackets for horses" in the area. Whenever a horse got frisky, it was strapped into the "stock" where it gave no further trouble while the shoeing proceeded.

Another 1939 article by Wetselle traces an ill-starred copper mining venture in 1887 on Rothrock's Ridge overlooking the village.

An oldtimer recalled, "Back in those days, human nature was very much the same as what it is now. Only that time, everybody was mine crazy. Wherever men walked, they were looking for ore, in the hope that they might discover some rich mine."

"We began our experiment during the winter months of 1887. Armed with picks and spades, our little company repaired to Rothrock's Ridge and struck our picks into the hard rock. We had little or no mining experience."

"We removed the surface soil and only a few feet below, we encountered a rock ledge that you can neither break up with pick nor powder. I am still of the opinion there is an abundance of copper ore in this section, but I believe we began work at the wrong place."

"Take your iron ore or zinc for instance. The richest veins are always found under water. I believe if we would have gone a little further down in the valley, the Locust Valley copper mine might have an altogether different story to tell."

"After almost breaking our backs, picking through the hard rock, we finally succeeded in removing several cartloads of ore. The ore was hauled down to the old Locust Valley Iron Foundry, where an attempt was made to reduce the ore to metal."

The attempt failed, and shortly after that the copper mining venture was abandoned.

The digging of ochre, however, was successfully carried on for a time in the area. This clay was considered high grade. It was used in paint.

Perhaps the latest major development in the community was the creation of the Locust Valley Country Club. It was granted a charter in Lehigh County Court in the spring of 1954 and officially opened as a club that Memorial Day.

The club is located on property purchased from the Donald Smith estate. Its 125 acres are split between Lehigh and Bucks counties.

Included in the purchase was a fieldstone house built in 1806 that has 16 rooms.

William D. Gordon of Doylestown, president of the Golf Architects of America, laid out an 18-hole golf course that covers 6,750 yards. Previously, Gordon was the designer of Saucon Valley Country Club.

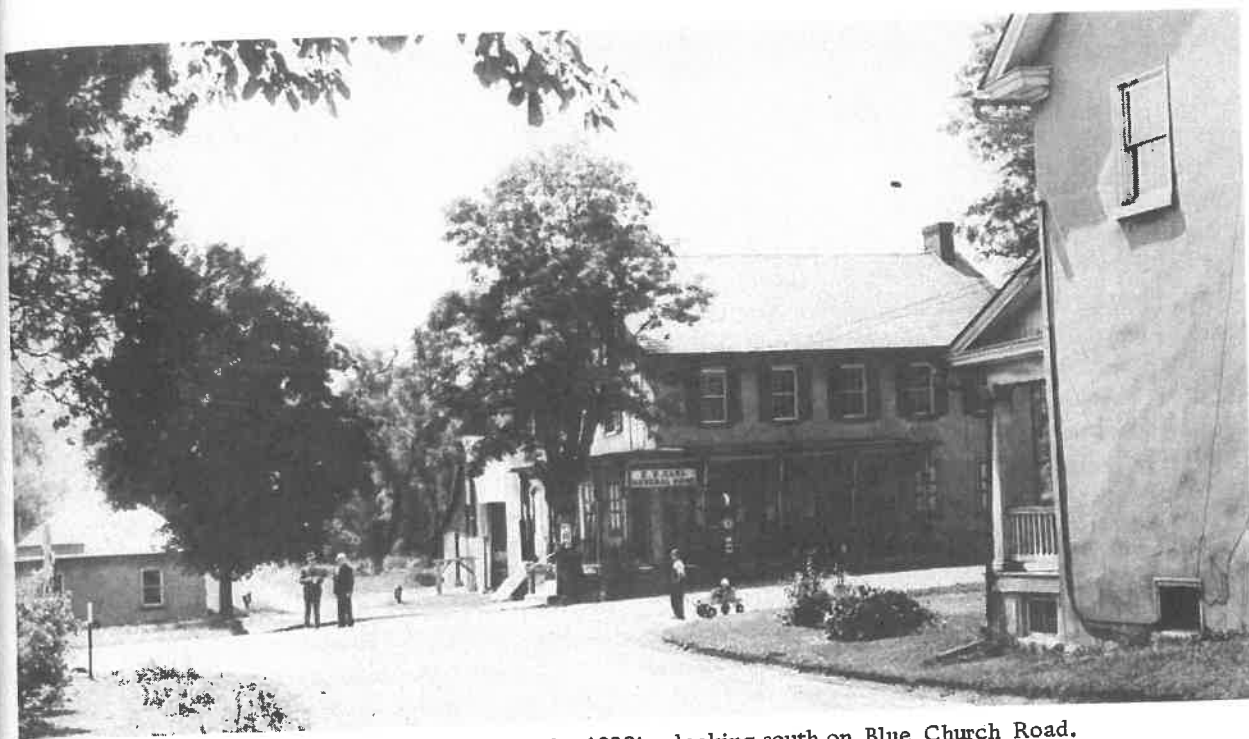
The club provides employment in its dining and recreation facilities for a number of teenagers and adults in the community.

At this Bicentennial year, Locust Valley looks back on a history of varied commercial enterprises that were cause for its original existence, ventures that died off one by one. And it lives now as a quiet village of homes and gardens, surrounded by woodland and farms and an increasing number of new homes.



Scene of the abandoned Locust Valley Iron Foundry in the early 1930's.





The heart of Locust Valley in the 1930's, looking south on Blue Church Road.  
The store sign reads: E. M. Carl, General Mdse.



The "Trading Post" is on a dirt lane part-way up Beverly Hills Road,  
about a half mile from Locust Valley.

## THE NORTHERN AREA OF THE TOWNSHIP

(LANARK, FRIEDENSVILLE, COLESVILLE, STANDARD, LIMEPORT,  
BIG ROCK & LAKE THOMAS)

*by Fran Petro*

On July 4, 1976 we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the approval, by Congress, of that famous document . . . The Declaration of Independence. During this period of tribulation, colonists were faced with constant peril — their homes were in danger, oppressive taxes were being enforced, even their lives were being threatened. Yet even at this turbulent time in history, these same colonists strongly believed that they were special . . . God's chosen people.

To have arrived at the dawning of a new age; to have had this tremendous desire for freedom from oppression — what route had precipitated this courageous thinking? Some of these answers can be found in the European backgrounds of the immigrants. In the fertile regions of Germany and the Palatinate, many of these people worked as part of the feudal system. Others were sons of well-to-do families who had no immediate chance for gaining the family holdings. Some were seeking religious freedom; others sought political freedom. Add to this the fact that emissaries from William Penn were encouraging colonization of the New World — promising untold wealth, land, freedom from persecution, and freedom of religion.

The immigrants came in droves, carrying their most prized possessions with them. It was not an easy journey — very few of us today would even undertake such a precarious venture. After leaving the continent, they had to make their way to England; there, they would wait many months for a vessel to carry them across the vast ocean. And what a vessel . . . small and spindly with canvas sails — just a tiny speck floating on that vast body of water. A sign of relief . . . they were aboard the ship . . . just a few days and they would be in the New Land. What hopes and aspirations! After months of traveling across Europe they were finally on board the ship, crammed into confined spaces, waiting for a break in the weather. At last, a good clear day — the sails were raised — a great "Hurrah" arose from the bowels of the ship — a new life was in sight. Out on the ocean the squalls hit; the ship was blown off course; livestock and people were swept overboard; there was sickness, death and birth. Those hardy pioneers encountered every conceivable malady during the crossing. Finally, months later, the horizon revealed land — the New World, a beginning for those left after the turbulent ocean crossing. But fate was not kind and upon docking in Philadelphia, the immigrants were forced to remain aboard ship until their passage was paid. If funds were not available, the Captain sold the immigrants as servants at public auctions (for a period of 2 to 5 years). These people were called Redemptioners; some of whom later became influential citizens. Many families were torn asunder — the husband sold to a farmer in Maryland; the wife to a farmer in New Jersey; the children elsewhere. Often, the Redemptioners had to endure suffering and hardships from their new owners. In desperation, they fled, haunting the back roads, traveling in stealth and at night. Rewards were posted by their new owners for their return. Although the majority of this activity occurred between 1728 and 1751, the practice was not abolished within the 18th century.

"There was a set of men who were called soul-drivers, who used to drive Redemptioners through the country and dispose of them to the farmers. They generally purchased them in lots consisting of fifty or more, of captains of ships to whom the Redemptioners were indebted for their passage. The trade was very brisk for many years, but (as the country increased in population) broke up about 1785. A story is told of one of these soul-drivers having been tricked by one of his herd. This fellow, by a little management, contrived to be the last of the flock that remained unsold, and of course travelled about with his master. One night, they lodged at a tavern, and in the morning the young fellow rose early and sold his master to the landlord, pocketed the money, and marched off. Before going, he

used the precaution to tell the purchaser that, though tolerably clever in other respects, he was rather saucy, and a little given to lying and he had even been presumptuous enough at times to endeavor to pass for master!"

How long it took the new settlers to travel the distance from Philadelphia to Upper Saucon Township varied. In some cases a stay of as long as 2 years along the way occurred, perhaps the settler liked a more densely populated region initially. In any event, it was during the year 1731 that one of the first appeals for land was made to the Proprietors of the State. In all probability, the township was settled prior to this date. Interestingly, most early deeds refer to what we call a farm as a PLANTATION. And, in most instances, a specific name was given to the Plantation — Dover, Stoney Green, Pittsburg, Gaul, etc.

Recall, if you will, that this group of settlers were basically Germanic in origin; true, religious differences did exist (within the Township there were German Reformed, Lutheran, Mennonite and a few Quakers). Industrious, hard working people, they were interested in establishing their Plantation and then accumulating additional properties for their children. A close knit group, they would inter-marry with the settlers on the neighboring farms. Together, they provided a place of worship, a school, permanent houses and barns.

The first buildings of the settlers were crude, small, log huts; a few wealthier souls were able to construct small, one room stone cabins. After the land was cleared and planted and suitable shelter provided for the livestock, the settler then had time to work on the house. The father provided the initial home — usually a small, 2-story stone structure. It was expected that the oldest son would add to this in a few years. The Germans built for posterity — each succeeding generation had been instilled with the doctrine of increasing the size and the wealth of the holdings.

What happened in those years between 1731 and 1776? The number of people applying for land increased tremendously. In 1743 (when the Township was organized) there were approximately 40 Plantations; in 1761 there were 82 heads of households; and in 1779 there were 119!

The inhabitants of the Township were not exposed to the horrors of the Indian conflict as they had always been able to maintain a peaceful relationship with the Indians passing through the area.

Additional land was constantly being acquired as at that time the practice was to allow the land to lie "fallow". Thus, acres were being farmed while others were "fallow". Remember, fertilizers of today were unknown. In fact, today a farmer can get 2000 bushels of wheat from the same acreage from which the early settlers reaped 200 bushels.

Although rye, buckwheat, and wheat were grown, the wheat was not used by the German farmer in his daily diet. Bread would only be made from rye or buckwheat as wheat was husbanded, being the only resource for obtaining money.

Even though this Germanic group made no effort to alter their way of life, forces outside of their little township would drastically affect them. Increased taxes were being levied. Being predominately agricultural, they were expected to contribute grain, horses, and wagons to the cause of freedom. Reimbursement was not part of the deal!! Later, they would send their sons to fight for the cause. Although the area was not part of the conflict, the sounds of the battles of Brandywine and Valley Forge resounded through the valley. Wounded men passed their homes enroute to the hospital at Bethlehem. Secretive couriers galloped by spreading anxiety before them. Once the war was under way, neighbor looked at neighbor with distrust. Those peace loving groups who refused to fight were persecuted and forced to leave their homes.

On May 6, 1775, a letter had been read from the Committee in Philadelphia and the following resolution passed:

"to form military companies in every township in the county. Every man was to supply himself with a good firelock, a pound of powder, four pounds of lead, a quantity of flints, and they were to choose their own officers. Those who refused to associate for the common cause were to be considered enemies, and business with them suspended."

During the year 1777, the Test Act was passed in which every man had to take an Oath of Allegiance to the new government. Those people, Moravians and Mennonites, who refused, had to pay double taxes or be persecuted. With sentiment running hot on both sides, the Mennonites of the area found themselves thrown out of their homes with only the clothes on their back. In desperation, the wives of Bachman, Yoder, Sell, Geissinger, Christian Young, and Newcomer wrote to the Continental Congress begging for food, shelter and the return of their husbands.

To help clarify the social aspects which existed within the Township prior to the Revolution, we offer the following documented information on one of our local patriots — Squire Jacob Morry.

During March of 1721, George Wilhelm Morry left his home in Drideraberg, Germany and came to America, arriving in New York in November of 1721. After 2 years, William left New York state with his bride, Anna Engel, and settled in Upper Saucon Township during the later part of 1723. The first tract of land he applied for was 315 acres in 1735; it included land from Hopewell Road north to the Mountain and from Lanark Road east to Stonestrow Road.

At this time, William Morry (Mory, Mohry, Murry, More) was 35 years old. His first son, Johan Jacob, was born on July 7, 1726 and by 1734 he had 6 children: 2 sons (Johan Jacob and William) and 4 daughters (Elizabeth, Maria, Anna and Hannah).

Within 8 years time, William had acquired 2 additional tracts of land; he now possessed a total of 482 acres. During this time, Jacob was growing into manhood, and when he reached his early 20's (1746), married a young woman named Clara Catharina. To understand more fully the social and economic aspects of this time period, the following excerpt is presented:

For a long time after the first settlement, the inhabitants usually married young. There was no distinction of rank, and very little of fortune; on these accounts the first impressions of love resulted in marriage, and a family establishment cost but a little labor and nothing else. A description of a wedding will serve to show the manner of our forefathers, and mark the grade of civilization of their rude state of society. At an early period, the practice of celebrating the marriage at the house of the bride began, and, as would seem, with great propriety; she also had the choice of the minister to perform the ceremony.

A wedding engaged the attention of a whole neighborhood, and a frolic was always anticipated by old and young with eager expectation. This is not to be wondered at, when it is remembered that a wedding was almost the only gathering which was not accompanied with the labor of reaping, log-rolling, building, or in planning some scouting party or campaign.

On the morning of the wedding day, the groom and his attendants assembled at the house of his father for the purpose of reaching the mansion of his bride by noon, which was the usual time for celebrating the nuptials, and which always took place before dinner.

Let the reader imagine an assemblage of people, without a store, tailor, or mantuamaker, within thirty miles, and an assemblage of horses, without a blacksmith or saddler within an equal distance. The gentlemen dressed in shoepacks, moccasins, leather breeches, leggins, linsey hunting shirts, all homemade. The ladies robed in linsey petticoats, and linsey or linen bed-gowns, coarse shoes, stockings, handkerchief, and buckskin gloves. If there were any buckles, rings, buttons or ruffles, they were the relics of olden times, family pieces of parents or grandparents. The horses were caparisoned with old saddles, old bridles or halters, and pack saddles, with a bag or blanket thrown over them; a rope or string as often constituting the girth, as a piece of leather.

The march in double file was often interrupted by the narrowness and obstructions of the horse paths, as they were called, for they had no roads, and these difficulties even often increased, sometimes by the good, and sometimes by the ill-will of neighbors, by falling trees, and tying grapevines across the way. Sometimes an ambuscade was formed by the way-side, and an unexpected discharge of fire-arms covered the wedding party with smoke. Let the reader imagine the scene which followed this discharge, the sudden spring of the horses, the shrieks of the girls, and the chivalric bustle of their partners to save them from falling, which sometimes occurred in spite of all that could be done to prevent it. If a wrist, elbow, or ankle happened to be sprained, it was tied with a handkerchief, and little more was thought or said about it.

Another ceremony commonly took place before the party reached the house of the bride, after

the practice of making whiskey began. When the party were about a mile from the place of their destination, two young men would be singled out to run for the bottle, the worse the path, the more logs, brush, and deep hollows, the better, as these obstacles afforded an opportunity for the greater display of intrepidity and horsemanship. The start was announced by an Indian yell, logs, brush, muddy hollow, hill and glen, were speedily passed by the rival ponies. The bottle was always filled for the occasion, so that there was no necessity for judges, for the first who reached the door was presented with the prize, with which he returned in triumph to the party. On approaching them, he announced his victory over his rival with a shrill whoop. At the head of the troop, he gave the bottle first to the groom and his attendants, and then to each pair in succession in the rear of the line, giving each a dram; and then putting the bottle in the bosom of his hunting shirt, took his station in the company.

The ceremony of the marriage preceded the dinner, which was a substantial backwoods feast, of beef, pork, fowls, and sometimes venison and bear-meat, roasted and boiled, with plenty of potatoes, cabbages, and other vegetables. During the dinner, the greatest hilarity always prevailed, although the table might be a large slab of timber, hewed out with a broadaxe, supported by four sticks set in auger holes, and the furniture, composed of old pewter dishes and plates, with wooden bowls and trenchers, and occasionally pewter spoons, much battered about the edges, might be seen about some tables. The rest were made of horns. If knives and forks were scarce, the deficiency was made up by the scalping-knives, which were carried in sheaths suspended to the belt of the hunting-shirt. After dinner, the dancing commenced, and generally lasted till the next morning. The figures of the dances were three and four-handed reels, or square sets, and jigs. The commencement was always a square four, which was followed by what was called "jigging it off," that is, two of the four would step out for a jig, in which they were followed by the remaining couples.

About nine or ten o'clock a deputation of the young ladies would steal off with the bride, and put her to bed. In doing this, it frequently happened that they had to ascend a ladder, instead of a pair of stairs, leading from the dining and ball-room to the loft, the floor of which was made of clapboards, lying loose, and without nails. As the foot of the ladder was commonly behind the door, which was purposely opened for the occasion, and its rounds, at the inner ends, were well hung with hunting-shirts, petticoats, and other articles of clothing, the candles being on the opposite side of the house, the exit of the bride was noticed but by few. This done, a deputation of young men, in like manner, stole off with the groom, and placed him snugly by the side of his bride. The dance still continued, and if seats happened to be scarce, which was often the case, every young man, when not engaged in the dance, was obliged to offer his lap as a seat for one of the girls; and the offer was sure to be accepted. In the midst of this hilarity the bride and groom were not forgotten. Pretty late in the night, some one would remind the company that the new couple must stand in need of some refreshment; Black Betty, which was the name of the bottle, was called for, and sent up the ladder, but sometimes Black Betty did not go alone, as bread and butter, beef, pork, cabbage, went along with her. The young couple were compelled to eat more or less of whatever was offered them. It often happened that some neighbors or relations, not being asked to the wedding, took offence, and the mode of revenge adopted by them on such occasions was that of cutting off the manes, forelocks, and tails of the horses of the wedding-party.

"The better-to-do" class of people on such occasions were sometimes dressed in the finery which their parents had brought with them from their "fatherland." The groom dressed in his father's wedding coat, and the bride in the quilted petticoat which had served her mother on a like occasion, in Germany. As the whiskey they drank operated upon their courage, they very frequently had a brawl or fight. The Rev. Mr. Muhlenberg mentions this as occurring at weddings at which he was called upon to officiate.

During the French and Indian War (1756-1758), Jacob contributed one wagon to the cause while his father William donated two horses. It must have been at this time that Jacob became interested in the political side of life. Whether his motives were good or bad is not known. Did he buy the position of Justice of the Peace? Did he use this position ruthlessly? Or, did he attempt to improve conditions within the Township?

On June of 1774 the last court held under the government of the King took place in Easton; the last two justices to be commissioned by the King were Squire Jacob Morry and John Wetzel. You must

recall that the Justice was considered a leader in the community. The sessions were ceremonious and imposing. The justices would be escorted to the Court by the constables bearing the constable staves (insignia of their offices).

"The judges wore a three-corned cocked hat; on the bench they looked very grave, and of great importance, the enlightened community standing around the bar apparently absorbed in stupid adoration."

Sometime prior to 1776, Jacob was also a Judge! On December 1, 1774 Jacob Morry was elected to the Committee of Observation; on September 27, 1775 he was appointed to the General Committee which met at Easton. (Jacob was already a member of the Committee of Correspondence.) During May of 1776 members of the General Committee were again called to Easton and on July they attended the reading of the Declaration of Independence on the steps of the Court House.

On June 3, 1777 Jacob Morry was recommissioned as a Justice of the Peace for the County of Northampton by the Convention — giving him the distinction on having been one of the last justices appointed by the King and one of the first appointed under the new government of the United States!! (It was during this period of time that the Bethlehem History books referred to a Squire Jacob Morry of Allentown who harrassed the Moravians. What was this harrassment? We have not been able to find out. Most people outside of the Moravian commune were antagonistic toward the Moravians as they were ignorant of the Moravian culture.) Jacob continued as a Justice of the Peace and received his last commission in 1784 for another seven year term.

Patriotic fervor was at a high pitch. At the age of 50, Jacob enlisted in the army and with his two sons, William and Peter, went off to fight the enemy. Always shrewd, Jacob still found time to accumulate additional property even though he was assured of receiving his father's estate. In fact, it was a common practice for the head of the family to settle acreage on his sons long before the father's demise. Then, the younger sons would go into another field of endeavor . . . carpenter, cordwainer, tanner, tailor, etc; the daughters would receive money and possibly some personal possessions.

At the reading of Father's will, it would come to light as to how smart Momma had been. Recall that the woman in the family was little better than a slave . . . she was expected to marry the man selected by her father, to cook and to clean, to weave cloth, to work in the gardens, to work in the fields, and to see to the raising and education of the children. If Mother was smart, she would have her husband add provisions providing for her future security. However, if the marriage had been turbulent, Papa got his revenge by adding the clause that "if my wife should remarry, she is not allowed to take anything but the clothes she is wearing to her new husband".

During these early years, personal possessions were cherished and dealt with as money; so much so that the dispersment of these items were documented in wills . . . a practice which continued well into the 1800's. (Herewith we present Peter Morry's will — the son of Squire Jacob Morry — to emphasize the precise disposal of goods in this era.)

I give and devise unto my son JACOB MOHRY the Mefsuage Farm and Tract of Land thereunto surveyed whereon he now lives, situate in Upper Saucon Township aforesaid bounded by lands of William Mohry, Leonard Reichert, Godhard Mohry and my other lands hereinafter devised unto my son JOHN containing 180 ACRES & 41 PERCHES and allowance of 6 P. Cent for roads and also a tract of woodland situated in Salisbury Township and in the County of Lehigh aforesaid, bounded by land late of Nicholad Graemere, John Mohre, Stephen Tool and land hereinafter devised unto my son JOHN containing 25 ACRES and 25 PERCHES and the accustomed allowance aforesaid.

JACOB: to pay the sum of 800 Pounds beginning a year after the father's death. And further I give and bequeath unto my said son JACOB two horses, one wagon and everything thereunto belonging, one plow, one harrow, gears for two horses, one wind mill, one cutting box, one bed and bedstead, one desk, and after the decease of my wife, 100 pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania, and the large cupboard hereinafter bequeathed to my wife during her life.

And all the remainder of my Plantation and lands situate in Upper Saucon Twsp. aforesaid, bounded by lands of Godhard Mohry, the lands above devised unto my son Jacob Mohry, Jacob Erdman, Peter Kneppley, Christian Shaeffer and William Mohry containing about 138 ACRES and the customary allowance aforesaid, be the same, more or less, and one other tract of woodland situate in Salisbury Twsp. aforesaid, bounded by lands late of Stephen Tool, George Kiefer, Philip Wind, Godhard Mohry and land herein before devised unto my son Jacob containing 24 ACRES & 100 perches and the customary allowance aforesaid, I give and devise unto my son JOHN MOHRY. He paying therefor the sum of 1200 POUNDS lawful money of Pa. first payment to commence the year after the death of the father and yearly payments thereafter to my wife and also subject to the following reservations to my wife CATHARINE during the term of her natural life or her widowhood which may first determine that is to say, one room on the first and one on the second story in the southern part of my dwelling house and sufficient room in the Kitchen, Cellar, and on the Garret, the privilege to take such and so many articles out of the kitchen garden and so many apples out of the orchard on the premises as she may want for her own self, and that he my said son JOHN shall give and deliver unto his Mother yearly during the said term at proper times and seasons, six bushels of wheat, twelve bushels of Rye, haul the same to the Mill and the mead and bran home again, one fattened hog her choice, out of my said son's stock, fifty pounds of good beef, ten pounds hackled flax, ten pounds clean tow, three pounds wool, potatoes so many as she may want, and one barrel of good Cider, find and provide feed, pasture and stabling for two cows as well as for his own, and find sufficient firewood for her, haul the same to her door and cut it small fit for use, and in case of sickness or inability of the Mother do all necessary work for her and find and provide for her sufficient nursing and attendance; and provided also, that he my said son JOHN shall suffer my daughter MAGDALENE to live and dwell in the small stone dwelling house on the premises with the use of the Kitchen garden thereunto belonging during the term of her widowhood, if they can so long agree and live in peace together, but the term shall be considered as expired as soon as they do not live peaceably together.

And I give and bequeath unto my said son JOHN, two horses, two sheeps, four swine, one waggon and everything thereunto belonging, one plow, one harrow, gears for two horses, one wind mill, cone cutting box, one bed and bedstead, and all summer and winter grain in the barn, house and in the grounds on the premises herein before devised unto him, and after the decease of my said Wife 100 Pounds lawful money of Pa. The Stove, Clock with the Case, Table, Milk Cupboard, and the four chairs hereinafter bequeather to my said wife during her life.

Unto my beloved wife CATHARINE I give and bequeath the annuity and articles above reserved out of the plantation devised unto my son John and also the interest yearly of 200 pounds lawful money aforesaid, one stove with the pipes, one clock and case, one table, one large cupboard, one milk cupboard, four chairs during the term of her natural life or her widowhood which may first determine and further all my beds and bedsteads not herein otherwise bequeated.

Unto my daughter MARIA I give and bequeathe two cows, two beds and bedsteads, one case of drawers, one spinning wheel, one small and one large wash tub, one baking trough, one large iron kettle, two iron pots, one cast pan and one frying pan, half a dozen of chairs, one kitchen dresser with glass doors, one iron ladle, one skimmer, one flesh fork, one dozen knives & forks, one dozen queensware plates, five queensware soup barons, three small and two large dishes, two dozen cups and saucers, one tea pot, one coffee pot, one sugar bowl, one tea box, one cream jug, six tea spoons, two dozen pewter tablespoons, one churn, two water buckets, one coffee mill, one saddle and one bridle.

Unto each of my daughters: Catharine, Elizabeth, Magdalene, Susanna and Maria I give the sum of 400 Pounds provided that the several sums they may have received from me at the time of my decease shall be deducted therefrom.

My bellows, all my blacksmiths tools whatsoever, my whiskey still, all my horses, colts, cows, or horned cattle, sheep, swine, farming utensils and every other article and thing belonging to my farm, all my bonds, note book debts, the residue of the monies arriving out of my lands which shall not be wanted to discharge the legacies unto my said FIVE DAUGHTERS and cash, after my just debts and funeral expenses are duly paid and satisfied I give and bequeathe unto my TWO SONS, Jacob and John in equal parts and shares. And all of every the articles herein before bequeathed to my said beloved wife during her life and not otherwise herein disposed of after her decease, I give and



bequeath after her decease unto my said DAUGHTERS Catharine, Elizabeth, Magdalene, Susanna, and Maria equal parts and share. And all the rest of my Estate not herein before bequeathed I give and bequeath unto my SEVEN CHILDREN: to wit, Jacob, John, Catharine, Elizabeth, Magdalene, Susanna, and Maria in equal parts and shares.

John and Jacob are appointed executors: will sealed October 31, 1821.

Witnessed by: John Moll and Peter Rhoads

Moll was a famous gunsmith and Rhoads was the Burgess.

Squire Jacob Morry had lived an exciting life having been exposed through his 67 years to the birth of a new government. On March 5, 1793, he died . . . unfortunately too soon to see the erection of the Friedens Church on property donated to the Church by his son William. None of his sons entered into politics on a county level although they were public minded and active within the Township.

After the Revolution ended in 1781, supplies became more abundant, but prices soared so that the phrase "Not worth a continental" became commonplace. "By 1780 business was prostrate, the closest economy required, and a still further disheartening complication arose from the depreciation of the public money." The inflation that hit the Colonies was terrific.

In Allentown in 1781 sugar sold at \$12.00/pound; coffee . . . \$2.00; a silk handkerchief for \$120; a spelling book for \$20; a scythe for \$130; tea for \$75/pound; cambric for \$25/yard; a skein of thread for \$4; and a paper of pins for \$2.

Then, on June 19, 1812, President Madison declared war on England. On May 9, 1813, British ships were sighted on the Chesapeake Bay and the Pennsylvania militia was mustered and dispatched to Elkton, Maryland (Elkton being the staging point for all Pa. Military).

The British, however, did not invade until August of 1814; then on February 20, 1815, peace was declared and the Township returned to a prosperous period.

Years went fleeting by —

— the end of the war brought country fairs with crop and livestock contests and balloon ascension.

— 1819 was the dawning age of steam and canals; the vogue was created for growing grapes.

— 1821, the year of the worst draught in memory and an extremely virulent typhoid epidemic.

— The panic of 1837 . . . businesses were laid prostrate.

— Between 1840 and 1850 an interest in beautification caused the rough hewn worn fences to be replaced by whitewashed boards and perpendicular posts.

— the doguerreotype (our first photographs) became the vogue in 1850.

— 1857 brought financial panic.

— Civil War

As we enter the early 1900's, we gaze around at the tranquil landscape, the bountiful farms, the majestic stone barns, the homey farm houses — not much has changed since the early settlers arrived.

Oh, yes, we now have the trolley wizzing down off the mountain catching an occasional cow crossing the tracks.

The glimmer of that "new fanged invention — electric lights" is slowly replacing the glow and carbon of candles and kerosene lights.

Along with the introduction of electricity came that metal marvel — the automobile. No more dusty dirt roads! The Limeport Pike had the distinction of being one of the first cement highways in the Township — as the local populace referred to it "the road that went to nowhere".

Apathy was an unknown word. Social functions were looked forward to with zest, family get-togethers were anticipated with great pleasure—the social inter-mingling of the community was similar to that enjoyed by the early settlers.

In looking back over 200 years of growth, the names of some of the original families can still be found in the township. Although farming still retains a prominent place within the township, over the years we have experienced a suburban growth and many farm fields now contain residential homes.

The previous disertation has been an attempt to point out the general township development from the time of the first settlement. Today, we have villages such as COLESVILLE, FRIEDENSVILLE, LANARK, STANDARD and the area outside of LIMEPORT which have been built on the farms of the original settlers. Following is a group of items which will highlight each area and provide more insight into this area.

#### COLESVILLE-FRIEDENSVILLE AREA:

The names of Gangewehr, Morry, Bahl, Marstellar, Appel, Boehm, Hartman, Beil, Weaver, Heller, Trappe, and Young are synonymous with this area. As early as 1737, this section was being settled.

During 1755 the road from Quakertown to Bethlehem was constructed through these present day villages and in 1775 the road from Hellertown thru Friedensville and into Limeport was laid out. Naturally future growth developed along these two thorough fares. The scattered farms grew closer together as families intermarried and the need for additional occupations developed.

Basically a rural area, the discovery of zinc in 1845 turned this section into a booming industrial zone, and precipitated the heavy growth of populace. The mines were to develop on property owned by the Hartman family.

As a result of the mining impetus, stores sprang up and the villages grew in size to accomodate the influx of workers.

Space prohibits the development, in depth, of this area; therefore, we will present a few pertinent highlights.

- Friedensville Church was built on acreage donated by William Morry, son of Squire Jacob Morry. Prior to the construction of the Church, services were held in the barn of William Morry.
- Philip Wittman, one of the founders of the Church, was listed as a mason in his will . . . perhaps he helped build the initial church on this site.
- Colonel John Bahl, a Revolutionary War officer, was instrumental in the establishment of the Church.
- One-half an acre of shade trees was donated to the Friedensville Church by Valentine Young, a Mennonite.
- The stone homestead of Solomon Hartman is now at the bottom of the New Jersey Zinc Company settling tanks.
- The Hartman family owned land in the Lanark area before relocating to the Friedensville section.
- Rev. John Philip Boehm, the first Reformed minister in Pennsylvania and one of the first in America, owned land in this area and passed this farm onto his son Anthoney William Boehm. It was Philip Boehm, grandson of Rev. Boehm, who was the first to dispose of his predecessor's land. The old stone homestead was standing on the old Geissinger farm.
- Philip Bahl was listed as a justice on the deed for the Church.
- As you travel North on the Old Bethlehem Pike from the Church and cross the creek, you will see on your right one of the oldest trees within the township with a circumference of more than 24 feet!
- Rev. Johann Conrad Yeager organized the Saucon (Friedensville) congregation and he was the one who preached in William Morry's barn during the time the church edifice was being built.
- The cemetery at Friedensville contains many early tombstones. The Hartman family cemetery had been moved from the farm and relocated here as have other family cemeteries.
- Nathan Grim operated a grist mill in the section now incorporated into the Bethlehem Steel Golf Courses. His daughter married Mr. Kemmerer and the Annie Kemmerer Museum was established in

Bethlehem housing her famous glass collection. Included in the museum's possession is a lovely oil painting depicting our area and showing the steeple of the Friedensville Church.

- The remains of the engine house from the first Zinc Mine can still be seen off of the Bethlehem Pike, between Friedensville and Colesville.

- Christian Hellender, the fracturist, is buried in the Friedensville cemetery.

- Hartman's school house (a red brick building) is still in existence and can be seen off of the Colesville Road.

- The Colesville Road is not in the same areas it was in the early 1800's. The first stone farmhouse on the left as you travel on the Colesville Road in a westerly direction from the intersection with the Old Bethlehem Pike towards Stonestrow Road is dated 1815. The portion of the house facing the road is actually the back of the house. Note also the size of the sycamore trees in the yard.

#### LANARK:

- The O'Connell house off of Lanark Road contains an 1812 date stone.

- Ruth Adam's house (located in Ohl's Lane) was a store owned by either Snyder's or Mumbauer's and moved to the present location.

- A birch distillery had once been located in the woods near Ohl's log house.

- The Ring home (a cape cod on Hopewell Road) was where the local families used to go for milk.

- In 1783 a log school house was built somewhere on Saucon Valley Road in the section between Lanark Road and Stonestrow Road.

- The tannery on the Wind farm was occupied by Herman Huffard in the 1920's; it is believed that he also collected tolls.

- Newberry Ulmer who ran the store at "Mory Winds" for a brief time period and later became a tax collector used to supply the livestock for the local funerals. Prior to his moving to Center Valley, he lived in the farmhouse behind Franklin Lichtenwalner.

- On Camp Meeting Road the old Yeager farm had been the site of an Indian Village in the section known as "the Big Spring".

- Iron mines dot the area: the wooded area around Stahler's farm, the knoll behind the old Clayton DeWitt Store in Lanark.

- The Great Philadelphia Road (now Lanark Road) was established in 1750.

- Lanark Road was once part of the Turnpike Toll Road.

- During the Revolutionary War the army quartered their livestock here as it was good "hay country".

- In the area of Lake Thomas in the section where there is a lee to the south of Saucon Valley Road, the children were warned of Trolls, the "old men" who lived in the deep holes.

- The Kessler property on Stonestrow Road originally belonged to Thomas Blackledge who bought it from the Penns. It was sold in 1749 to Valentine Buchecker and remained in that families possession until 1825 when it was sold to Jacob Hartman.

- Dewey Shaller was killed when hit by the Trolley . . . he was taking his cow across the tracks.

- The area between Stonestrow Road west to Chestnut Hill Road abounds with the names of the old settlers: The Morrys, the Trappes, the Winds, the Hartmans, the Horlachers, the Brunners, the Seiders, the Beyls, the Bucheckers, the Yeagers, the Newcomers, the Knepleys, the Wittmans, the Blanks, the Sells, the Erdmans, the Lynns, and many others.

- The red brick schoolhouse on Saucon Valley Road is still standing as a private residence.

- Heller's Tavern, the Thunder Mill, the store and post office at Mory Winds, the old Clayton DeWitt Store, the post office at Wittman's corners, and the old tannery are still in existence . . . fitting tributes to those ancestors who preserved our heritage.

- There is even an old legend about Lanark. It states that an Indian stopped and asked the blacksmith to do some work for him. The blacksmith insisted he did not have enough coal to do the Indians' work. The Indian came back a few hours later with a goodly amount of coal. From that date forward, adventurers were always seeking the black coal on the Lehigh Mountain.

- Traveling west on the Oakhurst Drive from Stonestrow Road towards 309 there is a lovely stone

house hidden behind the trees. This house once belonged to Jacob Hartman and may have been Morry property also. Interestingly, the barn was contained within a high stone wall and a small stone cabin built into this wall was the milk house at one time.

#### STANDARD/LIMEPORT AREA:

- Site of early mills, stores and a tavern.
- Henry Kookken not only ran a grist mill (currently owned by Zapacks) but was also a justice of the Peace.
- Many dairy herds dotted the landscape in the years gone by; today only a few dairy farmers are left, one of these is Lloyd Lichtenwalner.
- The Thomas Iron Company had iron ore mines; one of these was on Lloyd Lichtenwalner's property.
- The early deeds of this area resound with the names of the Owens; the Egners; the Schneiders; the Schaeffers; the Knepleys; the Wittmans; the Kookens; the Brinkers; the Trexlers; the Blackledges; the Thomases and so on.
- Many old stone farmhouses still dot the countryside in this area.
- Mount Trexler. "The geographical name of "Mount Trexler" was given to the plateau and ridge of South Mountain in Lehigh County just five miles southwest of Allentown to over 50 acres of land. It was here that the Sacred Heart Hospital placed a Tubercular Sanatorium. The valuable tract of 57 acres occupied the western side of an undulating ridge of South Mountain and was primarily intended to be used for the construction of an orphanage and trade school. The original plans were changed when the orphanage was established in Coopersburg. The Limeport property was then divided into 2 parcels: one of 7 acres for St. Joseph's Catholic Church which contained a large barn, farm house and spring house, and the other was used for the proposed sanatorium and now existent convalescent home. The first building was erected in 1941 and it has been expanded . . . a fitting tribute to Major General Harry Clay Trexler.

#### BIG ROCK

Upper Saucon Township can boast of having one of the most well known scenic features in Lehigh County. In the near future "Big Rock" will be incorporated into a County Park. It is located on the top of South Mountain (oft times referred to as Lehigh Mountain) close to the Upper Saucon/Salisbury Township border line this geological curiosity was documented in history books as early as 1845.

"BAUER ROCK" (BIG ROCK). At the summit of South Mountain a short distance southeast of Allentown is a mass of dark-colored Pochuck gneiss rising about 40 feet above the average level of the ridge. It is a prominent feature when the trees are bare and from its summit a gorgeous view can be had of the Saucon Valley to the south and Allentown and surrounding region to the north. It has been variously designated as Bower's Rock, Big Rock, Mammoth Rock or the present name, and has long been famous as a picnic spot. Its top is 1,038 feet above sea level.

One occasionally hears the feature explained as a collection of ice-borne boulders. This is definitely false, as the rocks are in place and represent part of the basic gneiss forming the mountain. Less abundant cracks or joints seem to explain the greater relative resistance to erosion.

An appreciative description by I. Daniel Rupp (1845) is quoted:

Numerous and interesting as the natural curiosities in this country are, there is none that so amply repays the adventurer as the Big, or Mammoth Rock, on the Lehigh hills, or South Mountain, in this township. It is about three miles southeast from Allentown, and a jaunt to the hills forms a pleasant hour's walk. The Rock is easily ascended, though elevated a thousand or twelve hundred feet above the surrounding country. The spectator, while standing on this rupic eminence, has a commanding view of one of the most variegated sceneries imaginable. As far as the eye can reach, except on the north, where the vision is bounded by the Blue mountain, are spread before the eye, well cultivated farms, dotted with buildings; and the scene is greatly enlivened by the limpid stream of

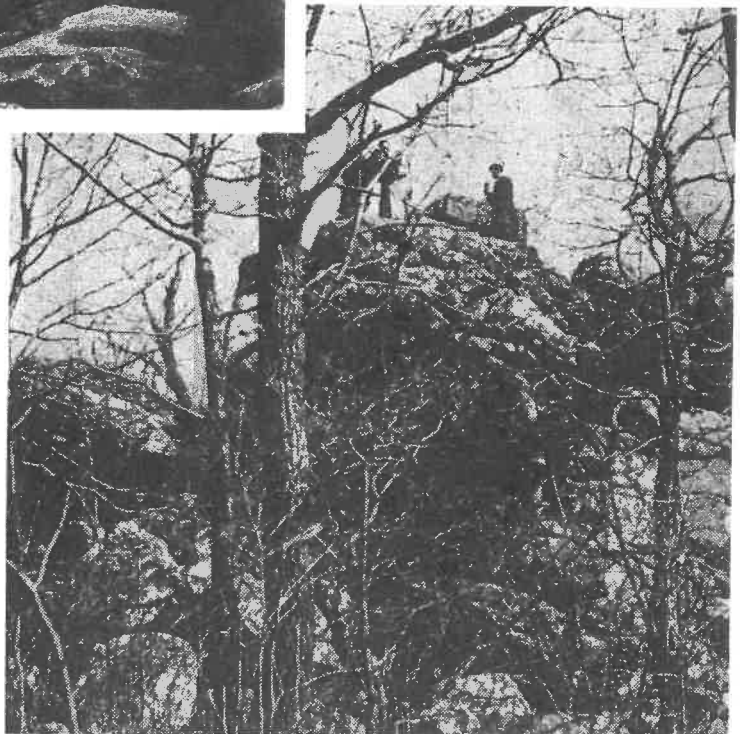
the Lehigh, as it winds its way down the Kittatinny valley. On the south, east and west, lie before you as a lawn, Saucon, with its rich limestone farms. Language fails to delineate the scenery with any degree of graphic accuracy."

Naturally, Big Rock has received some of its nomenclature from the physical size of this outcropping. It was referred to as Bauer's Rock (or Bower's) after the German immigrant who once owned the land on which the Rock is situated. Then, in Davis' Atlas of 1876 it was referred to as Prospect Rock, the only time we have encountered this designation.

With the establishment of "Big Rock" as a county park, this scenic spot will once again revert to a site for Sunday outings and picnics. Children will once again scramble over the rocks and hide in the caves once believed to be inhabited by Indians. The "Rock" will be used as a look out post to watch the progress of the whiteman invade the Indian lands.

And, if you look carefully, you may be one of the fortunate few to find the face of the Indian hidden among the rocks.

Big Rock, ALLENTOWN, Pa.



SITE OF SUMMER COTTAGES, BOATING, SWIMMING, PICNICKING, ETC. TODAY IT NO LONGER EXISTS BUT ITS MEMORY STILL LINGERS.

We have not been successful in determining the exact time for the birth of this resort area. Based on its location (East of Route 309 halfway between Saucon Valley Road and Oakhurst Drive), we know that the property was owned by the Morey family before New Jersey Zinc bought the farm. However, from a listing of the Sheriff's Sale of the Real and Personal Estate of the Saucon Iron Company (presented below) we can safely assume that the Morey Mine is the site of Lake Thomas. The following is a part of the Sheriff's Sale, Saturday, August 9, 1884, of the Real and Personal Estate of the Saucon Iron Company:

G. Also the railroad of defendants, together with the corporate franchise in the same located in Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, leading from the North Penn Railroad at a point on lands now or late of Phaon Albright, and extending thence a distance of about three miles to what is known as the Morey Mine, on lands of Gotthard and William Morey, also to what is known as the Morgan Morey Mine, including therein the fee simple of the road-bed, the ties, iron rails, the railroad structure and all appurtenances belonging to the same.

During this time period, the mining companies were having difficulties — some ore veins were not as rich as anticipated, the pumping of water was becoming costly, competition from other sources, etc. It would not seem presumptuous therefore, to conclude that the iron mine was closed down due to one of the aforementioned reasons. As late as 1876, the notation "iron mine" still appears in the Upper Saucon Township.

When mining ceased, this large void (in the shape of a figure 8) in the earth started to fill with water. Since water is not fed directly into the Lake area, it is assumed that the water which filled the Lake came from underground springs. Although the Lake has no source of water emptying into it, there was an outlet from the eastern portion of the Lake which crossed Saucon Valley Road and emptied into Lindy Lake. This could possibly have been the Morgan Morey Mine.

Looking at this spot today it is extremely difficult to imagine this filled with water. And even more difficult to comprehend the cottages and log houses lining the banks. Peering into the deep hole (30 feet deep) it makes you ponder how anyone would wish to swim there knowing how deep it is. There is no gentle slope down to the lower levels, only a straight drop. You are on terra firma one moment and the next step puts you on air. Still, we have reminisced about this area with Pat Neubauer who lived here with her family (DeJong) in a log house built by her father. Pat recalls the children playing along the banks of the Lake and never worrying about their safety.

As elusive as the date when the Lake was born is the date when it died. Our inquiries reveal that it dried up around the 1950's. The reason: here again nothing conclusive, but the majority of people tend to agree that the lowering of the water table due to the pumping operations of the Friedensville Mine was a direct cause.

Will the Lake ever again appear and be reborn as it was in the past — a place for enjoying the simple pleasures of life. It is doubtful. Not only is the water supply that fed the Lake unstable, but the property is no longer owned by many individuals. The New Jersey Zinc Company is now sole owner.

So, we must look back on Lake Thomas as a pleasant, slowly fading memory.

To temporarily recall a slower pace of life, we present the snap-shots on the following page. And to those of you who never enjoyed the pleasure of the Lake, or were not old enough to see the Lake in its prime, we offer condolences.

LANARK: (East of Route 309)



Located on Saucon Valley Road East is the old stone farmhouse, built prior to 1800, once known as the "Sunnyside Suburbs". The barn, which complimented this home burned down a few years ago, was located on the opposite side of the road. It is known that this building was part of the Morry homestead and may have been built by Squire Morry's son, Peter. It remained in the possession of the Morry family until the late 1800's and is now owned by the NJZ Company. It is reported the person who built this home also built the Knecht farmhouse on Limeport Pike.



Another Morry homestead. This house is now occupied by the Leroy Stahler family and was built in the 1830's. To the left of this house in the middle of the field once stood another stone home belonging to the Morry family, it was recently demolished.



After passing the Stahler home, there is a dirt lane to the left leading back towards the Oakhurst section. The clump of trees on the right hides Lake Thomas ..... once a well known resort. The pictures show the lake as it is now and as it was.



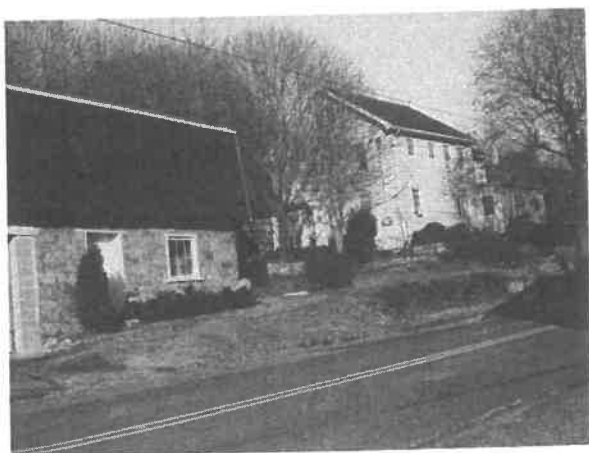


Cabin built by Mr. DeJong at Lake Thomas



Mr. DeJong and family

# LANARK: (The Oakhurst Section east of Route 309)



Located on Oakhurst Drive is the home once occupied by Al Rinn, former Pennsylvania Assemblyman. This home is now occupied by the Plante's.



Solomon Morry, a relative of Squire Morry, was once the owner of this stone farmhouse in Oakhurst. Prior to the Metzger's ownership, the farm belonged to John Dreas. It is believed the house may have been occupied by Christian Hellener, the fracturist, for a brief time period.

**LANARK:** (Lanark Road from the top of South Mountain to its intersection with Vera Cruz Road)



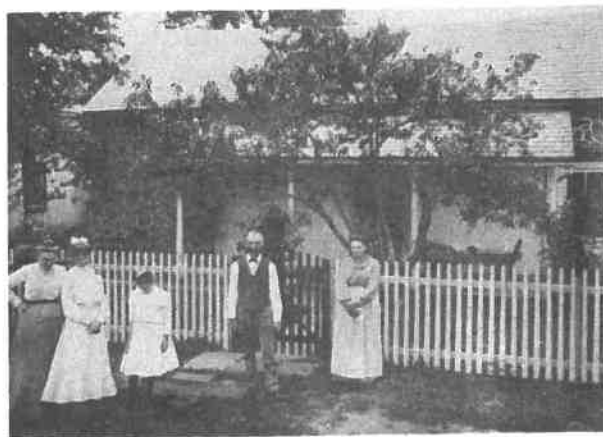
F. Wagner's General Store as it appeared in the early 1900's. It was located on the southeast corner of East Rock Road and old 309.



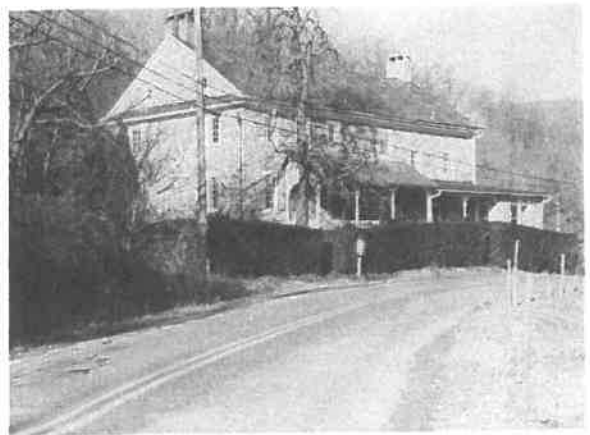
Dr. Ryan's home and office as it appeared in 1890. The structure is log. Left to right: Alfred Hohe, son; William Hohe, father; Charles Hohe, son; Hannah Hohe, mother; Frank Hohe, son and Milton Hohe, son.



The J. W. Pratt house contains a log and stucco structure underneath its clapboard exterior. Formerly the residence of Dr. Kelly and Rev. Kessler who died in the trolley wreck in the early 1920's at Christmas time.



This photograph of the Daday home prior to remodeling. The Walter's family are pictured in their front yard. An early home, it was once owned by the Wittman family and earlier by the Morry family.



The Mowbray residence, located on Vera Cruz Road near Wittman's Corner, exhibits characteristics of Moravian architecture similar to that on the Browne home in Afton Village.

## Architectural Appearance of Wittman Home, Lanark, Unchanged in 100 Years; Built by Postmaster, Farmer, Merchant



WITTMAN RESIDENCE—At Lanark, from an old print.

"Lanark", the Victorian manor house at "Wittman's Corner" at a bend in the old road to Philadelphia at the foot of Lehigh mountain, has been standing there to catch the admiring eye of passersby for the last 100 years. Countless numbers of travelers from Allentown to Philadelphia have passed by the stately home, the earlier ones possibly wearing stovepipe hats and riding in Victorian carriages as pictured in the old print above.

As indicated in the recent photograph, the house remains unchanged. The original architectural embellishment, a style developed in the "plush" Victorian period, remains in place. The two spring-fed fountains still dominate the front yard, now shaded by evergreen trees which the builder gathered painstakingly from what were in that time, remote areas.

The first mistress of the home was Victoria Banes, the 18-year-old bride of Charles Wittman, farmer - merchant - postmaster, who built it for her.

The small building to the right still stands. It was used by Mr. Wittman as the post office when he was postmaster. The Muehlberg vineyard, shown on the lithograph, is said by neighbors to be still nestled at the foot of the mountain, but today is not visible from the road.

The builder, a son of Frederick Wittman, who was a soldier in the War of 1812 and who is buried in a private cemetery near Frieden's church, named the home "Lanark", after a royal burgh in Scotland, the home of Scottish kings.

Members of the family still occupy the home, from which the community of Lanark gets its name.



LANARK, OLD LANDMARK—At Wittman's Corner, today.



Located on the corner of Lanark Road and Limeport Pike was the Clayton DeWitt store and gas station, now a private residence.



Taken in the early 1930's, this picture of the DeWitt family in front of the Gomery Brothers fresh grocery truck. Left to right: Lemuel J. DeWitt, son; Georgianna DeWitt, mother and Ida H. DeWitt, Lemuel's wife.



The Weibel estate prior to becoming Lanark Manor on May 22, 1931. This property was also one of the many Morry homesteads.

LANARK ROAD: (North from Springhouse Drive to Abbott Street)



Home of Clarence (Turk) Weidner, occupies farm land once owned by the Seider family. The stone structure was originally a one-and-a-half story building; the outbuilding to the left of the house is log.



Franklin Lichtenwalner's stone farmhouse contains an 1810 datestone. This farm had been in the possession of the Horlacher family for over 100 years. Later it was owned by the Isaac B. Meyer's estate and by Rev. Hibschan. In 1833 an English school, taught by Charles T. Jenkins, was conducted on the farm in a small building known as "Horlacher's Smokehouse". The school was successful for an 8 year period.



"Mory Winds" as it appeared in a 1910 postcard. Note the trolley tracks and the double tenant house (circa 1832) to the right of the stone barn. The barn contains the date June 13, 1812 scratched in the stucco ..... six days later on June 19, 1812, President Madison declared war on England. This property is being restored by the Robert B. Petro family.



The Lanark Bridge (built in 1830 and one of the earliest stone arch bridges in the Township) as it was in the early 1900's. Looking North you can see the carriage house of Heller's Tavern (now a double home) and the Tavern when it still retained the double porch.



Now the Brandis residence, this property had been in the possession of the Rumfeld and Morry family. It too was one of the many Morry homestead tracts.

# WEST HOPEWELL ROAD:



Now occupied by Ralph Miller, this stone farmhouse is located at the intersection of Hopewell Road and Lanark Road. For many years it had been the home-  
stead of the Rice (Reiss) family.



Proceeding west on Hopewell past Afton Village, we find the stone farmhouse of the Browne family. This is the previous home of Percy Fenstermacher and one of the Seider family properties. Note the window treatment which is Moravian in feeling. Two other known homes carry this treatment, both of which are located on Vera Cruz Road.



After passing Browne's, a dirt lane to the left leads back to this log cabin hidden in the woods. possibly occupied by the Seider family, we do know that Becks lived there in the 1850's. Many people recall the pond filled with trout close to the cabin.



Proceeding further, past P.W. Sales, we come upon the properties now owned by the Berghold and Weintraub families. This picture dates from the early 1900's and depicts farm living in that era.

The Weintraub farmhouse was part of the Sell home-  
stead and is believed that the house was built in the 1790's; the barn has been converted into a modern dwelling.



LIMEPORT PIKE: (Between Lanark Road and Chestnut Hill Road)



The Knecht farmhouse as it appeared in 1951 prior to the removal of the stucco covering. The house contains a "1793" date carved in a cellar foundation. For many years this was the Wind family homestead. John Philip Wind bought this 102 acre farm from Francis Hartman in 1797. Hartman bought it in 1786 from Aquila Tool, John Tool's son. Although in his brother's will, John's occupation was listed as "instrument maker", he is best known for having run the tannery.



Currently being restored, this stone structure was also part of the Wind property. Known to most people as "the olde Tannery", we feel the building was a one story stone cabin originally and over the years was enlarged to perform a new function. A cannonball was found in the meadow near this building.

After crossing the creek, we find the location of the old "creamery". It was here that the farmers brought their milk for processing in the early 1900's.



Now a part of the Wedgewood Golf Course, this farmhouse once housed the Blank family and the Weider family.



Part log and part stone, this farmhouse, owned by Lloyd Lichtenwalner, had a dirt floor in the log section .... typical of the earlier log construction.

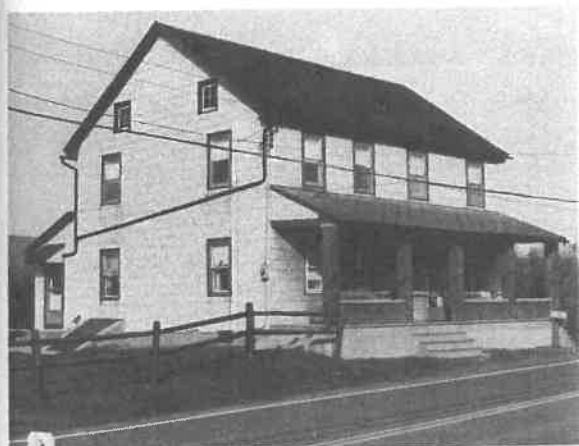
# STANDARD SECTION:



This plaster over stone (circa 1810) farmhouse located on the Limeport Pike retains the original, highly decorative doorway mouldings. Mr. and Mrs. Simon, the current occupants, reminisced about the building that Squire Brinker occupied next to their home.



The majestic stone home of Frank B. Heller, Upper Saucon historian. Now occupied by Glenn and LaRue Sheetz, direct descendant. Behind this building sits the stone house, owned by the Toths, thought to have been one of the earliest taverns, the Owen Tavern, in the township.



The Standard Post Office and Store which is located on the Limeport Pike between Chestnut Hill Road and Kozy Korner Road. A dirt lane alongside of this building leads to the old Ackerman Cider Mill.



Covered by a deceiving pink stucco, the house has held a certain facination. Unfortunately, our research time was limited and we could not delve further into the background but our suspicions were confirmed when the occupants, the Donats, indicated that part of the residence is log.



# LIMEPORT PIKE:



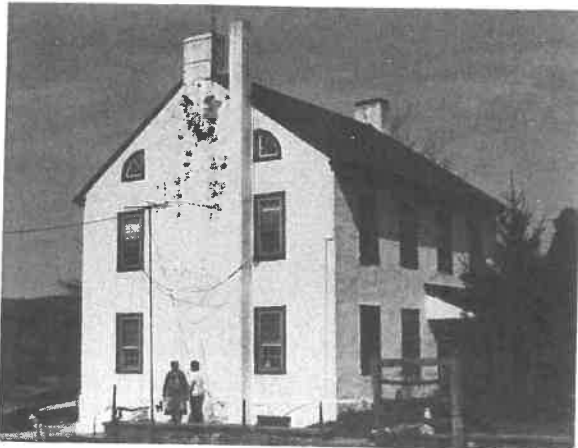
A picture of the old Simon farmhouse with members of the Simon family in the front yard. The homestead is located in a lane leading south off the Limeport Pike.



Now the Seng home, this property was formerly that of the Stauffer family; the Magnolia tree is reported to be 250 years old and imported from Germany.



The Trinkle residence located at the corner of Kozy Korner Lane and Limeport Pike. At one time this was an Erdman farm and earlier was in the possession of the Sell family.



Anna Ohl, widow of Lloyd Ohl, Sr. is pictured in front of their farmhouse. Note the interesting treatment of the attic windows.



Now the Valuska residence, this house was built by Joseph Wittman around 1860 although the property has been in the possession of his father, Frederick for many years. The house was used as a Mission Church during the time the barn was being converted into St. Joseph's Church.

VERA CRUZ ROAD:



The Groff farmhouse carries an "1800" datestone. It is located on the corner of Chestnut Hill Road and Vera Cruz Road.



Lloyd Lichtenwalner's farmhouse. The Lichtenwalner's are fortunate in having two early deeds for their farm showing the Schneider family and Egner family ownership. The original land grant dates back to 1742.



Kozy Korner Lane contains the stone farmhouse pictured .... now the property of Lehigh Valley Turfgrass. Although the house contains the date-stone "JH1856" and the barn "1860", the farmhouse looks older than the date.



The John Faustner farmhouse on Vera Cruz Road.



The combination brick and stone farmhouse has been owned by Charles Moyer, Cummings, and Zotter.

VERA CRUZ ROAD: (continued)



The intersection of Kozy Korner and Vera Cruz Road showing the Kozy farmhouse and springhouse.



The Weber farmhouse. Oak Hill Road now runs between the old (original house) and barn. The old road was located between the old house and the present, larger house.



The Soltys stone home was built in 1860 by Henry Gilbert. Gilbert bought the land from Thomas Egner. In 1904 Clayton DeWitt, who ran the store at Lanark Road and Limeport Pike, owned this property. In the late 1700's a Quaker school was supposed to have been operated in this area.



Howell's farmhouse was once owned by Herman Ziegler.



The Ruppert residence. Mr. Ruppert is an Upper Saucon Township supervisor. Built in 1853, the property was owned by Schneiders in the 1870's.

FRIEDENSVILLE/COLESVILLE AREA:



A glimpse into the past. Do you recognize the building? It is the Sexton's house for the Friedens Lutheran Church. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in obtaining the names of the girls posing in front of the white picket fence.



Currently the Peter W. Rau residence, this stone home is located on the old "Bethlehem Pike" between the Friedensville Church and the "Inn of the Unicorn".



Once the home of part of the Yeager family, this residence has been enlarged. The current occupants are the J. B. Hanson family. The home is located on Camp Meeting Road near Saucon Creek.



Freudig's have chosen the name of the "1840 House" for their residence built in that year. It is located on Colesville Road close to the Hartman School house.



Nestled on South Mountain between Stone's Throw Road and Colesville is the charmingly restored log cabin. Now owned by Bixler, it is felt the cabin could date back to the mid 1700's. A previous owner was the Reddington family.

## Spring Valley . . . Recollections

The Bicentennial Committee has been fortunate in encountering residents of the area who have been most willing to share their recollections of the past. One of these talented people was Charles Wimmer who fascinated us at one of our meetings by recalling his teaching days.

Before proceeding with Charlie's personal recollections of Spring Valley, we feel that we should let you know more about him. Charlie was born on June 2, 1901 in Upper Saucon Township. The Wimmer brothers: Harold, Wilson, George, John, and Charles taught public schools for a total of 209 years. For forty years, Charlie taught in Lehigh and Northampton Counties and adjoining school districts; and, for several years Charlie was on the Planning Board.

### SPRING VALLEY AREA

*by Charles M. Wimmer*

A glimpse of this area as it was in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.

Starting in the center of Spring Valley, or Saucona (an Indian name), was the old William J. Slifer store which sold anything the native people needed. I still remember the big, bald-headed man with a pair of specs on the tip of his nose; the cracker barrel; and the Post Office composed of a box for each person living in the Village. Our Box Number was 39. I remember the store back to 1905 when it already was an old store; and, it is still there today as a "lived in house". When Mr. Slifer died, it was taken over by Wilson E. Wimmer; later by William Beidleman; and then by Mr. Jamicky.

In back of the store was the old Grist Mill operated by Sylvanus Beidleman and Andrew Weitselbalm (who was the stone cutter). The millstone was part of the equipment that ground the wheat, etc. to make flour and food for the surrounding peoples' chickens, pigs, cows, and so forth. The power came from a waterwheel; for light they used kerosene.

Nearby was the Hotel operated by Mr. & Mrs. Lewis and Martha Kemmerer. The barroom was in the basement and contained an Artesian spring which fed into small ponds . . . . . at that time they contained beautiful trout. I always went there for a drink of the best spring water and to watch the fish. All this is still there but the Spring Valley Hotel is now a First Class Restaurant.

Next to the Hotel was the home of Milton Eisenhart; his son Daniel had an Ice Cream Factory and Ice House. He made ice cream that was out-of-this-world from pure cream from their own cows. Next to that (all of these places are within 50 to 500 feet of each other) was a Barber Shop (now gone); a One Room, One Chair, Frame building built over the nice little stream that came from the Hotel and the Ice Cream Shop. By the by, the stone Ice Cream Shop and Ice House are still there and both are over 100 years old. The Barber's name was Samuel Grow: his price for a hair cut was 10¢, a shave was 5¢.

Along this same stream was a Blacksmith Shop built and operated by Irwin Eisenhart. His power was an overshot waterwheel on this same stream. Irwin was a man who could repair anything pertaining to horses, wagons, farming implements, and tools. You could hear the sound of that anvil for miles around . . . . . from daylight to dark. Unfortunately, the shop was destroyed by fire about 50 years ago.

Then, we had the brickyard (which operated in the 1800's to about 1930) where the red clay bricks were manufactured. The property was destroyed in 1930 and the area became Bethlehem Steel Company's property . . . now Saucon Valley Golf Course.



In the center of Spring Valley we also had a creamery operated by Wilson H. Wimmer. He collected the milk from the surrounding farmers then ran it through a separator and made butter. Wilson's refrigerator was a Cave across the street (Weyhill Road) . . . once used by the Indians. The cave was the height of a man and went back about 30 feet; it had a cooling temperature low enough for the butter. The Creamery, a small, stone building, is still standing and is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Konald.

Wilson H. Wimmer also operated a slaughter house in Spring Valley, delivering meat all over the community by horse and wagon.

The village was small . . . a community of around twenty houses dating from the 1800's; all are still occupied. I still remember all the names of the occupants at that time.

Going west on Station Road . . . lived Mr. and Mrs. Tom Weaver; next to them (now the new store) was Mr. and Mrs. Weitselbalm. Then came the home of Mr. Wallace (he was an artist and a wagon painter) and Jennie Eisenhart. After their house was the home of Levi & Lucy Sterner; and, then the house of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shats. This was a double home, and Mr. Eli and Nora Stout lived in the other side. Nora's son killed the ticket agent in the Bingen Station. He was caught a few hours later and hanged at Easton; then, buried in the New Jerusalem Cemetery. Later this same house was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Eckert. The next house, now occupied by a Mrs. Fox, is where I was born. My father was Wilson H. Wimmer, my Mother's name was Emma. This spot is where my Father had his slaughter house and made sausage, scrapple, smoked hams, etc. for people for miles around. Next to our house was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Quintus and Maggie Weber (now the home of a civic leader . . . Mr. and Mrs. John Freeh).

Coming back to the center of the Village and going West on Weyhill Road, past the cave and the stone quarry, is a house built against the hill, occupied by Mr. George Gifford and his housekeeper — Sarah Shaffer and her son, Eddie. This home was later occupied by Mr. and Mrs. William (Bobby) Fluck. Bobby was still riding his bicycle at the age of 90 plus. Proceeding on that road west was the farm of Hiram Eisenhart and then the farm of William J. Sleifer, farmed by William Lutz, and now occupied by Mr. Sleifer's grandson, Edward.

At the center of the Village, head North to the top of the hill. Here lived Harry and Ed Hofler. Harry was a dealer in coal. Then, going down the hill at the intersection lived Benjamin and Sarah Dimnich. Ben was a railroader on the P&R Line from Bingen to Center Valley to Coopersburg. He, with a big wrench and hammer, walked that track daily, back and forth, checking for defects. The Dimnich home is now occupied by a son-in-law, Richard and Mildred Frankenfield. Richard, incidentally, is also a retired railroader. Across the street is a house that Wilson E. Wimmer later bought.

Proceeding west was the home of Charles and Carrie Koch; then, there was the house of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Sleifer and his sister, Lottie (latter occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Eisenhart). Mr. and Mrs. Milton Schwartz lived in the next house; then, further up that road lived Jacob and Harry Weaver, Amanders Hafler (the father of Harry Hafler), George Egner, and William Pfeifer . . . all were farmers. Their land is now occupied by the Bethlehem Steel Saucon Valley Golf Course. Near Washington, we had the Sloyer family . . . Charles, Harvey and Blanche (all now deceased). I remember Blanche as a palmist and fortune teller . . . and as a specialist in cures for ivy poisons, etc., which she had a patent on.

Many of these people worked at the Bingen Brick Company or at the Bingen Iron Works. The foreman was my grandfather, Peter Weiss, a Civil War veteran who lived in a log house in Lower Saucon Township. This house is now occupied by Dr. Owen and his wife; Dr. Owen is a retired Lehigh University professor who gives much time to the S.A.V.E. organization.

South of Spring Valley, around Washington School on Taylor and Washington Road, the old timers were Benjamin Kline, Daniel Koch, and James Rau . . . all were farmers. Next, there was the Greater Valley Girl Scout Camp, or what was called the flat roof house, occupied by the Harry Menges Family. This home was later occupied by the Clinton Richard family who had four children (Alice, Sabilla, John, and William) all now deceased. The four children and I went to school together. Alice, the oldest, at the age of about 16 disappeared one day and they never found a trace of her. In the same neighborhood we had Richard and Cora Pierce and Newton and Cora Bright.

West on Taylor Drive was Caleb and Ellie Rinker; Caleb was a news reporter for the Coopersburg Sentinel and the Bethlehem News. Further west was Tom McCarthy who worked at the Bethlehem Foundry. At Hay and Taylor Drive lived Jessie and Amanda Yons, retired. Most of the people mentioned were retired and probably born around the 1840's.

My Dad was born in 1860 and he used to say that he remembered when Lincoln was assassinated.

Coming back to East of the school on Taylor Drive was the home of David Bright. Later, about 1905, the double stone house and the large stone bank barn plus 46 acres was bought by Wilson H. Wimmer for \$1,800. He also owned the home rented to Caleb Rinker, a 2½ story brick house, . . . for \$3.00/month!

South on Wimmer Road lived John Hersh, later Louis Schlenner; next, was Charles Beck, now Fred Ruth. Across the creek and ice dam we had William and Emma Eisenhart. William specialized in natural ice and the raising of peaches. Half a mile up Wimmer Road was the home of William Sheetz (later owned by Owen Wambold). Then came the home of Jacob Kilpatrick (now owned by Charles M. Wimmer). This house was built of log and had a barn of hemlock and chestnut wood and a blacksmith shop. The property dates back to about 1760 when the Indians were still around. Indian artifacts are still found along the spring and stream down through the Greater Valley Girl Scout property. I have a record of an old deed of 1802 when this same property sold for \$600. The Wambolds bought it in the late 1800's and I still remember when one of the daughters (Amanda), who was about 8 years old, fell into an old abandoned dry well about 50 feet deep. Her father fastened a homemade basket to a rope; let it down into the well; and, she crawled into it . . . unhurt. After that, the well was covered and concealed. When I bought the property, I put a cement floor on it.

During this time, there were about 40 children in this community . . . all attending Franklin School. My first teacher there in 1904 was Rosie Landis and I am told that she received \$32/month for a 7½ month school term. My Dad, who was one of the School Directors, told me this.

Alvin Rupp was the County Superintendent and his assistant was Mervin Wertman (who later became the Superintendent).





Front view of the Eisenhart Farmhouse.



The cave . . . . as described by Charlie Wimmer, was once used by the Indians.



Ice Cream Shop run by Dan Eisenhart.



Ice Cream Sign



This picture was taken in the yard area of the Spring Valley Hotel. The caption on the back read: Auntie, Eva Eisenhart, and hired girl.



Another view of the trout ponds showing the the Eisenhart home in the background and the stone structure where Dan E. Eisenhart manufactured his famous "ice cream".



The Trout Ponds ..... here was raised the trout which was the specialty of the hotel.



Residence of Charles Wimmer on Wimmer Road, author of this article. The home is log.



Slifer Residence — Seated on the steps of the porch is Ed Slifer, former owner of the Spring Valley Store and Sauconia Post Office.

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To attempt a bibliography of this work has seemed an impossible task as the same research material was used by various authors. Thus, we are offering the names of all books used without an attempt to identify the pages from which the material was gleaned and also, the names of all areas where research was conducted. It is hoped that this will aid future historians in their search for more knowledge of the past.

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- The Bethlehem Room of the Bethlehem Public Library
- The Allentown Public Library
- The Southern Lehigh Public Library
- The Shelter House Collection of the Emmaus Library

In addition to the above the church records, wills, tax lists, deeds, etc. were used to gain additional background. Special thanks to all those who went out of their way to allow us access to this valuable material.

The Blue Church  
The Friedensville Church  
The Allentown Court House  
The Easton Court House  
The Bucks County Court House  
The publications of the Pennsylvania German Society Proceedings  
The Colonial Records  
The Pennsylvania Archives  
The City Registers  
and the many family genealogies used in compiling data.